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# The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O., MELBOURNE, FOR TRANSMISSION BY POST AS A NEWSPAPER

THE OFFICIAL FEDERAL JOURNAL of the ASSOCIATED PHARMACEUTICAL ORGANISATIONS of AUSTRALIA

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

New Series: Vol. 34—No. 401

MAY 30, 1953

Old Series: Vol. LXVIII—No. 809

**More advertising = more customers  
more customers -|- increased sales margin  
= MORE PROFIT FOR YOU !**



From June 3rd, right through to end of July, there'll be more and more customers coming to you for Allenburys Haliborange. The reason? June 3rd marks the beginning of:

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With which is incorporated  
"The Chemist and Druggist and Pharmacist of Australasia."

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## OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PHARMACY BOARD OF VICTORIA

#### EXAMINATION DATES 1953.

**Preliminary Examination.**—November 18-23.

**Intermediate Examination.**—November 10-19.

**Final Examination.**—November 23-December 2.

Entries for the Preliminary and Intermediate Examinations close fourteen days, and for the Final Examination twenty-one days, before the date of commencement of the Examination.

Full details obtainable from the office of the Board.

360 Swanston Street,  
Melbourne.

F. C. KENT, Registrar.

### PHARMACY BOARD OF N.S.W.

#### QUALIFYING EXAMINATION.

The next Qualifying Examination will commence at the Sydney University on Tuesday, August 11, 1953.

#### Time Table.

Pharmaceutics I . . . . .	Tuesday, August 11, Morning.
Pharmaceutical Arithmetic . . . . .	Tuesday, August 11, Afternoon.
Pharmaceutics II . . . . .	Wednesday, August 12, Morning.
Prescription Reading and Posology . . . . .	Wednesday, August 12, Afternoon.

Practical work commences on Monday, August 17, in the University Laboratories.

Entry forms are available from the Board only. Fee for part or whole of the examination is £3/3/-.

Applications close with the last post on Tuesday, July 14. Watch this column for further announcements.

P. E. COSGRAVE, Registrar.

Fifth Floor,  
Winchcombe House,  
52 Bridge Street, SYDNEY.

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Vitamin B <sub>12</sub>	1.0 mcgm.
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Available in jars each 50 capsules— and in 1000's for dispensing and hospital use.

**Ethical Division NICHOLAS PROPRIETARY LIMITED**  
MELBOURNE SYDNEY BRISBANE ADELAIDE PERTH

PEC.1.



# Editorial

New Series: Vol. 34—No. 401

Old Series: Vol. LXVIII—No. 809

May 30, 1953

## God Save The Queen

We join with loyal subjects of all countries of the British Commonwealth of Nations in paying homage to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, on the occasion of her Coronation on June 2, 1953.

For the Queen and for her subjects the Coronation is an event of great significance. Beneath the pomp and splendour, the glittering ceremonial and the glamour is a symbolic meaning of great import.

The magnificence of the traditional and beautiful ceremony is but an indication of the profound and moving act of dedication by the Monarch of her life to the service of her people.

The mystical rites descended from antiquity, fascinating though they be, are merely adjuncts, providing a background of reverent solemnity to the vows of fidelity and service which the Queen is called upon to make. These pledges, so simple but so eloquent, are the main reason

for the Coronation which means so much to all English-speaking peoples.

It is good at such a time that the Queen should be the subject of the thoughts and prayers of her people everywhere; that she should be supported by the knowledge that all classes of people in all her countries pledge her their loyalty and their devotion.

Her Majesty by her example so often has demonstrated her love for her people, her determination to serve them and her acceptance of all the responsibilities, obligations and restraints which her great office carry.

She herself is a symbol, a gracious and impelling symbol, of the might of Britain, the loyalty, integrity and tenacity of purpose of its peoples.

We earnestly pray that Her Majesty may long be spared to rule over and serve her people and that her reign will be marked by peace, happiness and prosperity.



# THE MONTH

## QUOTATION FOR "THE MONTH"

To love playthings well as a child, to lead an adventurous and honourable youth and to settle when the time arrives, into a green and smiling age, is to be a good artist in life and deserve well of yourself and your neighbour. (R. L. Stevenson.)

## P.B.A. AND P.M.S.

### MEMBERS SUPPORT GUILD.

It appears that the Federal Council of the Guild need have no misgivings about the support of members if reactions to the reports given to members at various meetings by the Federal President, Mr. Scott, and the Director of Pharmaceutical Public Relations, Mr. Attiwill, on the negotiations with the Commonwealth concerning Pharmaceutical Benefits and the Pensioner Medicine Service are accepted as indications of the general attitude.

A report of the Melbourne meeting addressed by Messrs. Scott and Attiwill is presented in this issue. There, as in all other places, whether it be in the capital cities, the provincial towns, or country centres, the reception has been the same—full support for the Federal Council in its efforts to maintain agreements on equitable terms.

The reasons are not difficult to find. First, the Guild under the leadership of Mr. Scott and his colleagues on the Federal Council has earned the complete confidence of the members; and, second, members know that dispensing prices cannot be cut below the present inadequate rates without seriously threatening professional standards.

## MEDICAL BENEFITS—APRIL 1

What one newspaper has dubbed "help to pay the doctor medical benefits scheme" will begin on July 1, 1953.

This was announced by the Commonwealth Minister of Health, Sir Earle Page, on May 28.

The National Health Bill introduced in the Federal Parliament at the end of March (A.J.P., April 30, 1953) was not passed before Parliament rose. The medical plan, therefore, will be worked under regulations made in accordance with powers existing under earlier legislation.

The main features of the scheme have been made known widely. They provide for Government subsidy towards the cost of medical and surgical treatment, but these benefits will be limited to persons enrolled with approved societies, the list of which is to be published.

Of main interest to pharmacy is the extent to which the scheme will influence people to seek medical advice and the possible effect this is likely to have on the volume of dispensing.

## HEROIN BANNED

Heroin, after much discussion, apparently is on the way out insofar as Australia is concerned.

At least three States have brought all preparations

containing heroin under full Dangerous Drug control. Another State has prohibited the manufacture of proprietary medicines containing any proportion of heroin. Makers of well-known proprietary lines, as a consequence, have dropped heroin from their formulae.

State regulations have now been reinforced by Commonwealth action in proclaiming heroin a prohibited import. In course of time, as stocks and reserves are used up, legitimate supplies of the drug will come to an end. When that occurs no doubt Custom laws making it an offence to have a prohibited import in possession will come into operation.

Although some opposition to the banning of a medication so widely used as heroin might have been expected from the medical profession, these moves apparently have not provoked any serious protest.

## THE B.P. 1953

The British Pharmacopoeia, which will become official in Great Britain on September 1, 1953, looks like being adopted in Australia as the official book of standards for drugs and medicines on the same date.

Pharmacy Boards in two States have mentioned September 1, 1953, as the probable date for the new edition and have emphasised the importance of simultaneous introduction throughout the Commonwealth.

Synchronisation of dates is, of course, highly desirable because of the fact that not only standards as between States are affected, but also because of the linking of the current B.P. with contract dispensing for Friendly Societies, the Pensioner Medicine Service, etc.

## ILLNESS OF PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Chemists throughout Australia will regret to learn that Mr. Keith Attiwill, Federal Director of Pharmaceutical Public Relations, suffered a minor heart attack following a mass meeting of chemists which Mr. Scott and he addressed in Melbourne on May 26.

This illness has precluded Mr. Attiwill from accompanying Mr. Scott on a tour of country centres in New South Wales and Victoria, where they were to have addressed members on negotiations now proceeding with the Commonwealth Government.

We join members throughout Australia in expressing sympathy to Mr. Attiwill and sincere wishes for his complete and speedy recovery.

## DOCTORS OBJECT TO PENALTIES

Objections had been raised by the N.S.W. Branch of the British Medical Association, according to a report from Sydney published in the Melbourne "Herald" on May 9, to penalty clauses in the Federal Government's medical benefits scheme. A special meeting of the British Medical Association (N.S.W. Branch) was held on May 15 to consider the matter.

A leading B.M.A. member, it was said, asserted that members would be asked to pledge co-operation in the scheme provided penalty clauses were altered.

He said these clauses provided for a £50 fine or three months' gaol—and in some cases £100 or six months' gaol—for misdemeanor, such as fraudulent prescribing of medicines. Many members felt that doctors should not be prosecuted for misdemeanors that were only technical or due to ignorance. Warnings, he claimed, would be sufficient.



## PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY LOSES SELF-SERVICE APPEAL

"The Pharmaceutical Journal" reports that the Court of Appeal has dismissed an appeal by the Society from a decision given by the Lord Chief Justice last year in the case of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain v. Boots Cash Chemists.

This case involved consideration of the conditions operating when Part I Poisons were sold under self-service conditions, and was of importance because the Poisons Act in Great Britain requires the sale of all such poisons to be "effected by or under the supervision of a registered pharmacist."

The Pharmaceutical Society contended that the sale was effected when the customer took goods from a shelf and placed them in wire baskets, and that the attendance of a registered pharmaceutical chemist at the cash desk when the price was paid did not amount to supervision of the sale to meet the requirements of the Act.

In this case the agreed facts were that two persons simultaneously selected from open shelves a bottle of compound syrup of Hypophosphites and Famel Syrup respectively and placed them in wire baskets with which each had been provided at the entrance. No member of the staff was aware that the articles in question had been taken from the shelves until the persons concerned presented themselves for the purpose of paying for the articles to cashiers stationed at the exit. A registered chemist was present there and supervised all that took place.

The Society's contention that the sale was not properly supervised was not accepted by the Court which rejected the appeal.

In the course of his judgment, the Lord Chief Justice found in the self-service system a convenient method of enabling the customers to see what they were choosing and possibly putting back and substituting articles they wished to buy, and then going to the cashier and offering to buy what they had chosen. On that conclusion he said the case failed because it was admitted that then there was supervision in the sense required by the Act, and at the proper moment of time.

This decision is one of considerable importance, and also of much interest in its application to the principle of offer and acceptance in relation to contracts of sale.

## DEATHS FROM POISONING—N.S.W.

The following details of fatal poisonings for the year 1952 are taken from the Annual Report of the Pharmacy Board of N.S.W. for 1952. These are classified under two broad headings to indicate the nature or use of the poison concerned.

Drugs (Poisons) available only on the authority of a Medical Prescription.	Poisons used for agricultural or pastoral use or as fumigants.
Barbiturates . . . . . 21	Arsenic . . . . . 14
Nembutal . . . . . 3	Strychnine . . . . . 18
Veronal . . . . . 1	Cyanide . . . . . 2
	Nicotine . . . . . 6

Deaths from other poisons totalled 33, as follows:—Phosphorus, 1; Kerosene, 2; Caustic Soda, 2; Thallium, 3; Lysol, 5; Paraldehyde, 1; Sodium Fluoride, 1; Sedormid, 4; Chloral Hydrate, 4; Eucresol, 1.

## MISUSE OF RED CROSS EMBLEM

"The Sydney Morning Herald" of April 18 reported that the Minister for Defence, Sir Philip McBride, said the Red Cross emblem was being improperly used from time to time for advertising and other purposes. He warned that under the Geneva Convention Act of 1938 offenders were liable to a £10 fine.

The relevant extract from the Geneva Convention regarding the use of the Red Cross Emblem (this was ratified by the Geneva Convention Act 1938 of the Commonwealth of Australia) reads:—

"4. (1) A person shall not, without the authority of the Minister, or an officer thereto authorised in writing by the Minister, use for the purposes of his trade or business, or for any other purpose whatsoever—

- (a) any design consisting of the Federal colours of Switzerland (being a white or silver cross on a red ground) or any design being a colourable imitation thereof;
- (b) the heraldic emblem of the red cross on a white ground formed by reversing the Federal colours of Switzerland or any design being colourable imitation thereof; or
- (c) the words "Red Cross" or "Geneva Cross" or any words so nearly resembling those words as to be capable of being understood as referring to the emblem mentioned in paragraph (b) of this sub-section.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

(2) Any goods upon or in connection with which any design, emblem or words are used in contravention of this section shall be forfeited to the King.

(3) Nothing in this section shall apply to a trade mark registered before the twenty-third day of December, One Thousand nine hundred and thirty-one, and consisting of or containing any such design as is mentioned in paragraph (a) of sub-section (1) of this section, and where a person is charged with using such a design for any purpose and it is proved that he used it otherwise than as or as part of a trade mark so registered, it shall be a good defence for him to prove—

- (a) that he lawfully used the design for that purpose before that date; or
- (b) in a case where he is charged with using the design upon goods, that the design had been applied to the goods before he acquired them by some other person who had manufactured or dealt with the goods in the course of trade, and that that other person lawfully used the design upon similar goods before that date.
- (4) Where an offence against this Act committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of any director, manager, secretary, or other officer of the body corporate, he, as well as the body corporate, shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

(5) Proceedings under this Act shall not be instituted without the consent in writing of the Attorney-General."

# SCIENCE SECTION



EDITED BY A. T. S. SISSONS, B.Sc. F.P.S.

## ANTI-TUBERCULOUS DRUGS

A Review Reprinted from the "American Journal of Pharmacy," December, 1952.

The announcement early in 1952 that the substance, isonicotinyl hydrazide (isoniazid), had marked tuberculostatic properties caused great excitement. No therapeutic regimen for tuberculosis had ever proven entirely satisfactory, and it was thought by many that possibly here might be the wonder drug that would bring tuberculosis under complete control.

A tremendous amount of clinical research has been done on isoniazid and its comparison with other tuberculostatic drugs during the past year. While it is too soon to give the final answer, much has been learned, and the relative merits and demerits of the various drugs used in tuberculosis rapidly are becoming clear.

Tuberculosis is a much more prevalent disease than many persons realise. It has plagued mankind since before recorded history. About 15 million persons in the world suffer with the disease. The mortality rate varies from a reported 260 per 100,000 inhabitants in Portugal (1950) to a low of 7 per 100,000 in Denmark. The deaths caused by tuberculosis in India (no data) are undoubtedly several hundred thousand per year, and it is estimated that between 2 and 5 million deaths are caused by it each year throughout the world.

It is considered quite certain that many more people suffer with a subclinical case of tuberculosis than are diagnosed as tuberculous and treated. Some workers claim that as high as 90 per cent. of the general population has been infected by tuberculosis to some extent before adulthood. In most of these, the disease is undetected and no medical treatment is given.

Prior to the development of tuberculostatic drugs, the treatment of tuberculosis was based exclusively on complete rest, a good diet, fresh air, and — in some cases — pneumothorax or thoracoplasty.

For many years, a search was made for a drug which might prove useful in tuberculosis. Among those which gave promise were the sulfones. Experience with these showed them to be satisfactory for leprosy, but not tuberculosis. The discovery of streptomycin by Waksman and the announcement that it had marked tuberculostatic action changed the entire approach to the treatment of tuberculosis. At first, it was hoped that chemotherapy with streptomycin might prove completely effective in curing tuberculosis, but this hope has not been realised. Streptomycin still remains our best drug for the treatment of selected cases, but, today, we know its limitations and how it can be used to best advantage to avoid its shortcomings as much as possible.

Other tuberculostatic drugs have been studied extensively in the last few years. Among the more impor-

## ARTICLES

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tant are the thiosemicarbazones (including amithiozone), para-aminosalicylic acid, and isonicotinyl hydrazide (isoniazid). Some recent reports have been published which give us a fairly reliable picture of the current status of the several drugs and their relative merit.

Chemotherapy should not be the only approach considered by the physician in the treatment of tuberculosis. The duration of the disease, the extent of the disease, previous treatment with drugs, the roentgenographic findings — all are important factors. In some cases, chemotherapy combined only with bed rest may provide adequate treatment. In others, chemotherapy should only be an adjunct to more drastic measures, such as collapse therapy or resection.

Chemotherapy, in any event, is a long-term process, and no drugs or combination of drugs known will produce rapid cures. While the patient may show rapid subjective improvement, this is not a sign of cure. With all tuberculostatic drugs, the two problems, drug resistance and toxicity, are the sources of difficulty. Combined therapy using more than one drug and given at a dosage level which minimises toxicity is the preferred approach.

In the early days of chemotherapy in tuberculosis, the frequency of toxic reactions and the emergence of drug resistant strains led most authorities to recommend the use of such drugs as streptomycin only when other treatment was unsatisfactory. Today, antimicrobial therapy is used much more frequently, and is, in fact, recommended in all cases where there is a likelihood of reversing the disease. It is, of course, imperative that chemotherapy be used at once in such serious conditions as miliary tuberculosis or tuberculous meningitis. It is also quite important that chemotherapy be used to prevent post-operative complications in tuberculosis. In this connection, it is unfortunate if surgery must be performed at such a time that the patient harbours drug resistant organisms. For this reason, the physician must carefully study each patient and judge the desirability of chemotherapy as well as its proper timing.

### Streptomycin and Dihydrostreptomycin.

These drugs are still the most effective tuberculostatic agents available. It is now believed that they are of about equal potency. In the early days of streptomycin therapy, large doses were given and many toxic reactions were reported. In acute infections caused by organisms other than *M. tuberculosis*, large doses for a short period are relatively safe. In tuberculosis, however, therapy is required for very long periods and such large doses cannot be given without toxic effects. It has also been found that it is not necessary, nor even desirable, to give streptomycin daily. The administration of 1 Gm. intramuscularly two or three times weekly or 2 Gm. every three days is as effective

as the use of daily doses of 1 Gm. Such intermittent therapy produces fewer toxic reactions and few resistant strains.

Streptomycin and dihydrostreptomycin are excreted by the kidney. If kidney function is impaired, the drug may cumulate and give rise to toxic effects. It is wise to determine kidney function in doubtful cases before treatment. If kidney function is below normal, the dose should be adjusted downward to allow for this.

Allergic reactions, including drug fever, dermatitis, and neurological reactions, are the most common toxic reactions. Streptomycin seems to produce these more frequently than does dihydrostreptomycin. The neurotoxic reactions are vestibular dysfunction and impaired hearing. Reducing the dose or discontinuing the drug may be necessary to prevent a serious neurotoxic reaction. An auditory test (high pitch) and a test for vestibular function should be done at regular intervals (3-4 weeks) during treatment so that a developing toxic reaction may be detected early.

In very serious tuberculous infections, the decision to continue therapy in spite of toxic reactions may be necessary. Streptomycin seems to be more damaging to vestibular function than is dihydrostreptomycin, while the reverse is true with regard to the auditory nerve.

Streptomycin and dihydrostreptomycin are available in ampuls as the sulphate or the hydrochloride. It is also available as the calcium chloride complex.

#### Para-Aminosalicylic Acid (P.A.S.).

The drug is only weakly tuberculostatic when given alone. Its chief and most important use is in combined therapy with streptomycin. Given with streptomycin, it greatly reduces the emergence of streptomycin resistant strains of *M. tuberculosis*. One study has shown a reduction in the incidence of streptomycin resistant strains from 78 per cent., using streptomycin alone, to 4 per cent. using combined therapy.

Para-aminosalicylic acid should be given daily, preferably as the sodium salt. The daily dose should be 12 Gm. (in divided doses) in terms of P.A.S. The sodium salt should be given in somewhat higher doses so that this equivalent of P.A.S. is given. The drug is rapidly excreted and, therefore, it must be given in frequent large doses.

Gastric distress is sometimes observed in patients taking P.A.S. or its sodium salt. Enteric tablets have been supplied in an effort to reduce gastric irritation.

The drug probenecid, *p*-(di-*n*-propyl sulfamyl) benzoic acid, retards the excretion of *p*-aminosalicylic acid sufficiently so that, if it is given concurrently, the dose of *p*-aminosalicylic acid can be reduced to 8 Gm. per day.

Sodium *p*-aminosalicylate has also been given parenterally as a means of avoiding gastrointestinal distress.

Both *p*-aminosalicylic acid and its sodium salt are available as powder and tablets.

#### Isonicotinyl Hydrazide.

This drug, also known as isoniazid and under a host of proprietary names, was reported early in 1952 as a potent tuberculostatic drug. The drug is relatively non-toxic and can be given both orally and parenterally. The dose is 150-300 mg. daily taken in divided doses. Patients on isoniazid show rapid improvement with weight gain, reduction of bacteria in sputum, and lowering of blood sedimentation rate.

Early hopes that this drug alone would provide adequate chemotherapy in tuberculosis have not been realised. Clinical studies have shown it to be very valuable when used alone, but the emergence of strains resistant to it has been established.

In a clinical evaluation of isoniazid as compared with combined streptomycin *p*-aminosalicylic acid therapy, the results after three months were quite analogous. Isoniazid did give slightly better results; particularly, in so far as weight gain was concerned. A comparison of the emergence of resistant forms, however, gave the following results. After one month, of 104 cases tested,

78 per cent. were sensitive; 12 per cent., doubtful; and 11 per cent., resistant. After 2 months, of 58 per cent. available specimens, 29 per cent. were sensitive; 19 per cent., doubtful; and 52 per cent., resistant. After three months, of 21 available specimens, 3 were doubtful and 15 (71 per cent.) were resistant. These figures are far above those which are known to prevail using combined streptomycin-P.A.S. therapy. They point to the inadvisability of using isoniazid alone in treating tuberculosis.

Preliminary studies using streptomycin, 1 Gm. 3 times weekly, plus isoniazid 150-300 mg. per day, are most encouraging. It appears that this combination is the equal of, and possibly better than, streptomycin-P.A.S. It has the further advantage of being as likely to cause gastric distress and causing more subjective improvement.

The combination of isoniazid and streptomycin may prove the ideal therapeutic approach. It is also possible that streptomycin, isoniazid, and P.A.S. will be found even more useful.

Iproniazid (1-one)-isonicotinyl-2-isopropyl hydrazine, a drug closely related to isoniazid, has very similar tuberculostatic properties. At present, isoniazid seems to be preferred to the isopropyl derivative.

#### Thiosemicarbazones.

The best known representative of this group is amithiozone, also known as conteben, tibione, and myvisone. This drug originated in Germany, where it was extensively used. Experience with this drug has shown that it lies somewhere between streptomycin-P.A.S. in its tuberculostatic activity. It is quite toxic, however, causing anaemia, liver and kidney damage, and gastro-intestinal disturbances. When used in combination with streptomycin, it does not give results comparable to streptomycin-P.A.S. since it does not reduce the emergence of streptomycin resistant forms.

#### Terramycin.

This drug appears to have definite value; particularly, as a substitute for P.A.S. in combined streptomycin therapy. Some patients cannot tolerate P.A.S., and, in these it may be replaced by a daily oral dose of 5 Gm. of terramycin (plus streptomycin—1 Gm. three times weekly or 2 Gm. every 3 days). Such a regimen seems to compare favourably with streptomycin-P.A.S. therapy. Some gastro-intestinal distress may accompany the administration of 5 Gm. of terramycin daily. Clinical studies in which this is reduced to 2 Gm. daily are now under way.

#### Viomycin.

Preliminary studies combining this antibiotic with either P.A.S. or streptomycin have shown that viomycin has some merit. Viomycin has some toxic properties (pain at injection site, allergic reactions, renal irritation) and these would seem to limit its use except in patients who cannot tolerate other drugs.

In conclusion, one should discourage the thought that the eradication of all tubercular infections by chemotherapy is an immediate prospect. The tubercle bacillus has survived for many years and it is highly adaptive. We do have drugs today which are of tremendous value as one of the adjuncts in tuberculosis control. Among these, streptomycin plus P.A.S. is the best established regimen. Streptomycin plus isoniazid may prove superior if early results are corroborated, and long-term use gives results which are equally good.

It seems reasonable to expect still further progress as new synthetics are evolved, based on our current knowledge of chemotherapy and its application in tuberculosis.

## NUTRITION AND SUSCEPTIBILITY TO TUBERCULOSIS

The influence of nutritional state upon susceptibility to infection continues to be a vexing problem. This is particularly true of tuberculosis, where indirect



evidence lends support to the thesis that under-nutrition is associated with an increased susceptibility to the disease. The high incidence of tuberculosis in underprivileged areas of the world, and particularly in semi-starvation, are cases in point. Nevertheless, a causal relationship is difficult to establish, since other factors — such as increased exposure, inadequate housing and clothing, and overcrowding — may each play a part to an unknown degree. The provision of a plentiful diet to patients with tuberculosis has become a standard of good medical practice. Extensive studies have been made of the various nutrients in patients with tuberculosis, both after the patients have the disease and (in a few instances) before the development of the disease, in an attempt to relate deficiency of nutrients to cause.

Among the early observations was that of a blood deficiency of vitamin C and vitamin A which led to the use of the "McConkey cocktail" (cod-liver oil and tomato juice) in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis. It was soon found that, even with very large doses, "saturation" with these vitamins was difficult to obtain when active disease was present. However, a little evidence has been forthcoming to support a causative relation between deficiency of these nutrients and the incidence of tuberculosis. A study in Denmark, during World War I, suggested a parallel relationship between tuberculosis, xerophthalmia, and the unavailability of fats. (*Nutrition Reviews*, 5, p. 97 (1947)).

Of interest in regard to ascorbic acid and vitamin A deficiency and the development of tuberculosis is the study of H. R. Getz, E. R. Long and H. J. Henderson (*American Review of Tuberculosis*, 64, p. 381 (1951)). These investigators studied a relatively stable, non-tuberculous, but susceptible, population for five years with respect to nutrition, and sought to correlate previous nutritional status with the appearance of disease. The study was begun with 500 non-tuberculous Negro males between the ages of 20 and 45 years. As subjects were lost from the study they were replaced by new individuals; so that by the end of five years 1100 men free from pulmonary tuberculosis at the first examination had been followed for periods of from one month to five years.

At the first examination, a detailed nutritional and clinical study was made, and the following measurements recorded: per cent. standard body weight; erythrocyte sedimentation rate; blood hemoglobin; plasma carotene; vitamin A; vitamin C; total serum protein; serum albumin and globulin; and serum calcium, phosphorus, and phosphatase concentrations. Roentgenographic examination of the chest was made in each patient when first seen. Unfortunately, in a number of instances, because of shortage of X-ray film, this examination was confined to fluoroscopy; so that, of the 28 patients who subsequently developed tuberculosis, more than eight had had no chest film, but only fluoroscopy, done before the disease became apparent. There may be a little doubt, then, whether these patients did not have tuberculosis when the study was begun. However, of the 28 who developed — or were thought to have developed — pulmonary tuberculosis, the values for the above observations were found to be scattered throughout the frequency-distribution curves in a random fashion, except for the blood concentrations of vitamin A and vitamin C. The values for these two nutrients, in 28 presumably non-tuberculous individuals who subsequently developed active tuberculosis, were all at the lower range of the values of the entire group studied.

Since several patients had negative initial chest examinations only by fluoroscopy, and since 12 others who did develop evidence of tuberculosis by chest plate had no clinical evidence of the disease, there were only eight patients who were negative by chest film at the beginning of the study, and who developed clinical tuberculosis. This makes evaluation of the study more difficult. However, the values for vitamin C in this group were, with one exception, all below 0.1 mil-

ligram per cent., which was the arithmetic mean for the entire group at the first test. The arithmetic mean for the entire group for vitamin A was 100 international units per 100 milliliters; whereas, of the eight patients who developed tuberculosis, the initial values of six were below 100 international units per 100 milliliters, the lowest being 32. There was no correlation between the deviation from standard weight or bone density and the subsequent development of tuberculosis.

This study appears to be an important one, and should lead to further investigations of the significance of previous nutritional status upon the development of tuberculosis as well as of other diseases. The study certainly strongly suggests that the individuals who subsequently developed tuberculosis in this group fell among those with low-plasma vitamin A and vitamin C concentrations. Because of the questions raised above, the study needs elaboration and confirmation. The possible reasons for low plasma levels of these two nutrients, in this group of patients, were not discussed by the authors.

—From "Nutrition Newsletter," U.S. Department of Information.

### SULPHONES AND STREPTOMYCIN IN PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

By P. W. Edwards, A. C. Penman and L. J. Cutbill.  
(*Brit. Med. J.* 1952, 1, 1224.)

Twenty-two patients received combined treatment with diaminodiphenylsulphone and streptomycin. The aim of the trial was to determine if the sulphone prevented or delayed the emergence of streptomycin-resistant strains of the tubercle bacillus, and to compare the results with a similar series treated with streptomycin and p-aminosalicylic acid. 50 mg. of the sulphone was given twice daily for the first 2 weeks; from the third week 1 g. of streptomycin was given daily by intramuscular injection and the sulphone dosage was increased to 100 mg. twice daily, and after another 2 weeks to 100 mg. thrice daily. The intention was to give streptomycin for a minimum of 8 weeks and the sulphone for a minimum of 12 weeks, but after the appearance of haemolytic anaemia in three cases sulphone treatment was suspended. The dosage was then reduced to 25 mg. daily increasing to 50 mg. daily after 2 weeks, and thereafter blood changes were not alarming. In 15 out of the 22 cases the organism was isolated from the sputum and tested for streptomycin sensitivity before treatment was started; 11 strains were fully sensitive, and 4 showed some reduction in sensitivity; the remaining 7 cases were negative. Twelve strains were isolated either during treatment or after its completion. Of these, 1 was fully sensitive, 3 showed reduced sensitivity, and 8 were completely resistant to streptomycin. Because of the rapid emergence of resistant strains the trial was stopped after it had been made in 22 cases. These results were not encouraging and compared very unfavourably with the findings in the streptomycin and p-aminosalicylic acid group of the M.R.C. (1950). The trials also demonstrated that diaminodiphenylsulphone in doses of 200 mg. daily is not tolerated by European tuberculous patients.—*J. Pharm. Pharmacol.*, Vol. V, No. 2, 1953, 131.

### NEW ANTIBIOTIC SHOWS PROMISE AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

By L.G.D.

A team of scientists at the Upjohn Company research laboratories, Kalamazoo, Michigan, comprising Dr. J. W. Hinman and E. Louis Caron, chemists, and C. DeBoer, microbiologist, has reported isolation of a new antibiotic called Amicetin, that shows pronounced activity against tuberculosis germs. The new antibiotic, said to be superior in some cases to streptomycin and without



some of the latter's undesirable side effects, has been found to inhibit several types of bacteria in laboratory cultures and to be effective against tuberculosis bacteria in experimental mice.

When the organism from the soil (obtained near Kalamazoo) was grown in the laboratory in a "submerged culture" containing a sugar, yeast extract, soya flour and salts, the culture broth was found to inhibit both major classes of bacteria, and particularly the type called mycobacteria, which includes tuberculosis germs. The crystalline antibiotic was isolated from the culture broth—the liquid present after the solid materials of the culture have been filtered out.

Amicetin, according to the researchers, is active mainly against certain Gram-positive bacteria in contrast to the culture broth itself, which exhibits good Gram-negative activity as well. Consequently, it is believed that the culture broth is capable of producing anti-bacterial activity in addition to that of Amicetin and contains other active antibiotics not yet isolated.

While Amicetin holds much promise, clinical tests, which are necessary before any conclusions can be made with regard to its effect on human beings, are now under way.

Meanwhile, Parke, Davis & Company, Detroit, has announced that it will shortly begin distribution to physicians of a new anti-Tb, antibiotic drug called Viomycin, following many years of research. Viomycin was developed from a Florida soil sample and has proved effective in discouraging the growth of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. While it shows some effects against other bacteria, it is not believed to be sufficiently active to overcome diseases caused by Protozoa, fungi or viruses.

At the same time, Dr. Howard Payne, professor of medicine at Howard University Medical School, Washington, D.C., told a meeting of the Mexican Society of Tuberculosis Studies and Silicosis in Guadalajara, Mexico, that Viomycin, which has been under study for more than four years, has proved effective in treating tuberculosis cases which have become resistant to streptomycin.

Reporting on the treatment of 35 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis with a combination of Viomycin and PAS (para-aminosalicylic acid), Dr. Payne said that this treatment has "definite and demonstrable" effect upon the disease. He said that seven patients with streptomycin-resistant organisms showed clinical improvement when treated with two grams of the new antibiotic twice weekly and daily P.A.S.

## "THE ANTIHISTAMINICS"

### Histamine.

Histamine was first made synthetically in 1907. It is closely related to the essential amino acid histidine, having one CO<sub>2</sub> molecule less. Dale and Laidlaw in 1910 showed that its effects resembled those of anaphylaxis, which was also under close study at that time.

Lewis and Grant (1924) showed that a histamine-like substance is liberated from tissue cells as a result of injury. Although this has not been recovered in sufficient quantity to be chemically identified as histamine, its physiological effects resemble those of histamine so closely that Dale, in his Croonian lectures in 1929, accepts the two as identical.

It has been clearly shown that histamine exists, pre-formed, in living cells, and after cellular injury or death its concentration is much less (Thorpe, 1928).

Although the effects of histamine vary qualitatively as well as quantitatively from one animal species to another, generally speaking it causes capillary dilatation and increased permeability with fall in blood pressure, flushing of the skin and weal formation, contraction of smooth muscle, particularly that of the uterus, intestines and bronchi, and stimulation of certain secretory glands, particularly those of the stomach.

### The Relationship of Histamine to Anaphylaxis.

Although Dale and Laidlaw showed in 1911 that the effect of histamine closely resembled that of anaphylactic shock, it was soon apparent that it did not reproduce exactly the anaphylactic state. For instance, the decreased coagulability of the blood and the occurrence of purpura, both well known in association with anaphylaxis, do not occur with histamine.

The concept that seems to fit all the experimental observations is as follows. As a result of an antigen-antibody reaction, either on the surface or within susceptible cells, the cells themselves are damaged. This leads to the liberation of cell contents, including histamine, which produce maximal effects at the site of the reaction, but also diffuse into the blood-stream, causing general reactions. Heparin and choline, among other substances, may also be liberated and act as toxins.

The clinical manifestations are thus due to (i) cellular damage (purpura and haemorrhage into liver, intestines, kidneys, etc.), (ii) histamine release (erythema, weals, vesiculation, bronchial constriction, congestion of mucous membranes, etc.), and (iii) other toxic effects (due to heparin, choline, etc.).

These multiple pathogenetic factors must be considered in assessing the value of antihistaminic therapy.

### Principles of Treatment.

It is obvious that the most effective therapy of allergic conditions must be directed to the antigen-antibody reaction, either by elimination of the antigen or by desensitisation. In many cases this is not practicable, and it is not surprising that investigators turned to combating the effects of histamine. This may be attempted in one of the following ways:

1. Use of an agent which has the reverse physiological effect of histamine, such as adrenalin for bronchoconstriction.

2. Destruction of histamine. A histaminase has been found to occur naturally, but the enzyme is not effective therapeutically.

3. Desensitisation of the tissues to histamine.

4. Administration of a substance which blocks the effects of histamine, perhaps by competing in the metabolic processes of the target organ.

The desensitising of tissues to histamine, though widely practised, has not been clearly shown to be effective. It is based on the concept that patients are allergic because they are abnormally sensitive to histamine, but this is quite unproven, and it is more likely that histamine acts as a simple toxin.

A different approach to the question of sensitivity to histamine is that of Fell *et alii* (1943), who stated that normal individuals develop antibodies to histamine, thus rendering it inactive. Subjects were allergic because they failed to produce such antibodies. They suggested the use of a histamine-protein conjugate with the idea that the combination would be antigenic, the histamine acting as a hapten. The antibodies so formed would inactivate histamine occurring naturally. The method has been implemented commercially in histamine azo-protein ("Hapamine"). Subsequent experiments, however, have failed to confirm the theoretical observations, and clinical trials have not shown the method to be effective.

The antihistaminics probably belong to group 4 above. Early investigations showed that certain amino acids (arginine, histidine) exerted such an effect, but were too toxic for therapeutic use. The observation of Fournau and Bovet (1933) that combinations of the ethylenediamine radical were effective led the way to the introduction of the antihistaminics in current use. In 1942 Halpern, in France, described the therapeutic use of "Antergan" and later "Neoantergan" ("Anthisan"). "Phenergan" in 1944, and "Diatrin" in 1947 were introduced in Europe. "Benadryl" introduced in 1945 and "Pyribenzamine" in 1946 were the first of this type produced in America.

In the ten years there has been a flood of related compounds and literature describing their experi-

Table I. Antihistaminics.

Trade Name.	Abbreviated Chemical Name.	Drug House.	Preparation.	Content.
"Allecur" . . .		Schering.	Tablets.	20 milligrammes.
"Antistine" . . .	Antazoline hydrochloride.	Ciba.	Ampoules.	10 milligrammes per millilitre.
			Tablets.	50 and 100 milligrammes.
"Anthisan" . . .	Mepyramine maleate.	May and Baker.	Ampoules (two millilitres).	50 milligrammes per millilitre.
			Nasal drops.	0.5% + 0.025% "Privine".
			Tablets.	50 and 100 milligrammes.
			Ampoules (two millilitres).	25 milligrammes per millilitre.
"Benadryl" . . .	Diphenhydramine hydrochloride.	Parke, Davis.	Cream.	2%.
			Elixir.	25 milligrammes per drachm.
			Capsules.	50 milligrammes.
			Vials (10 millilitres).	10 milligrammes per millilitre.
			Elixir.	10 milligrammes per millilitre.
			Cream.	2%.
"Chlor-Trimeton"	Chlorpropenpyridamine maleate.	Schering.	Tablets.	4 milligrammes.
"Diatrin" . . .	Metaphenilene hydrochloride.	Warner.	Tablets.	50 milligrammes.
"Di-paralene" . . .	Chlorcyclizine hydrochloride.	Abbott.	Tablets.	25 and 50 milligrammes.
"Histostab" . . .	Antazoline hydrochloride.	Boots.	Tablets.	100 milligrammes.
			Ampoules (two millilitres).	50 milligrammes per millilitre.
"Neohetramine"	Thonzylamine hydrochloride.	Wyeth.	Tablets.	25, 50 and 100 milligrammes.
"Perazil" . . .	Chlorcyclizine hydrochloride.	Burroughs Wellcome.	Tablets.	50 milligrammes.
"Phenergan" . . .	Promethazine hydrochloride.	May and Baker.	Tablets.	10 and 25 milligrammes.
			Ampoules (two millilitres).	25 milligrammes per millilitre.
"Pyribenzamine"	Tripelennamine hydrochloride.	Ciba.	Tablets.	50 milligrammes.
"Tagathen" . . .	Chlorothenzylpyramine hydrochloride.	Lederle.	Tablets.	25 milligrammes.
"Thenfadi" . . .	Thenfadi hydrochloride.	Stearns.	Tablets.	15 milligrammes.
"Thephorin" . . .	Phenindamine.	Roche.	Tablets.	25 milligrammes.
			Ointment.	5%.
			Lotion.	5%.
"Thenylene" . . .	Methapyrilene hydrochloride.	Abbott.	Tablets.	50 milligrammes.

mental evaluation and clinical trials. The preparations available in Australia at present are shown in Tables I and II.

#### Pharmacology of the Antihistaminics.

Apart from the effects on histamine-induced reactions, the antihistaminic drugs exert a local anaesthetic effect, and in man, though not in animals, a sedative effect. When applied to the skin as a cream, a number of the preparations absorb the ultra-violet rays of the sun, and thus prevent sunburn.

They antagonise the effect of histamine on smooth muscle and on capillaries, but do not prevent the histamine stimulation of gastric secretion.

A fully documented review of history, chemistry, pharmacology and clinical applications of the antihistaminics has been published as a monograph by Feinberg *et alii* (1950).

#### Therapy—General Observations.

The use of antihistaminic drugs is at best a compromise. They do not modify in any way the underlying antigen-antibody reaction, and while this persists symptoms will recur as soon as administration is stopped. Specific therapy should be directed to this basic reaction by eliminating the antigen or desensitising the subject.

In some circumstances the preparations may serve as a useful diagnostic tool. A skin rash of doubtful cause or recurrent nasal congestion may be alleviated with antihistaminics, an effect indicating an allergic basis. Such a test should, of course, be interpreted with caution.

Estimates of potency of various preparations are based on clinical impressions or bio-assay with histamine injection or standardised anaphylactic reactions in animals. The difficulties of quantitative assessment are thus very great. However, it seems clear that there

is no particular preparation which is better than others, either in general or for a specific disease.

As in all therapeutics, should a partial response be obtained, the dose should be increased until relief is satisfactory or until side effects become troublesome. It may be necessary to use two, three or four times the usual dose.

There is considerable variation in individual response both in relief of symptoms and in toxicity. When an effect is not obtained with one preparation, or when side effects are troublesome, several other preparations should be tried in rapid succession.

The therapeutic effect lasts about six hours. When the allergic condition recurs at regular intervals, a single dose appropriately timed may be effective. When a continuous effect is required, administration should be at six-hourly intervals.

Children tolerate the antihistaminics well. If the child is aged over 14 years the adult dose should be given, from 5 to 14 years one-half of the adult dose and from 2 to 5 years one-third of the adult dose. Most fatal poisonings have been in infants, and for those under two years of age the dose should be from 5 per cent. to 20 per cent. of the adult dose.

Administration is usually by the oral route. When there is urgency, preparations for intravenous injection are available. Topical applications by means of creams, eye drops and aerosol sprays are possible, and may be more effective than oral administration.

More potent preparations, such as "Phenergan," "Pyribenzamine," "Benadryl," "Diatrin," "Trimeton" and "Anthisan," usually have a greater sedative effect, and the physician may take advantage of this. "Antistine" and "Histostab," "Neohetramine," "Thephorin," "Perazil" and "Diparalene" are less potent and less sedative. The physician is advised to choose one from each group and to become familiar with them for general use.

Table II. Related Compounds.

Trade Name.	Abbreviated Chemical Name.	Drug House.	Preparation.	Content.
"Andramine" . . .	Diphenhydramine 8-chlorotheophyllinate.	Andrews.	Tablets.	50 milligrammes.
"Avomine" . . .	Promethazine 8-chlorotheophyllinate.	May and Baker	Tablets.	25 milligrammes.
"Dramamine" . . .	Diphenhydramine 8-chlorotheophyllinate.	G. D. Searle.	Tablets.	50 milligrammes.
"Diparcol" . . .	Diethazine hydrochloride.	May and Baker.	Tablets.	50 and 250 milligrammes.
"Menhydrinate"	Diphenhydramine 8-chlorotheophyllinate.	R. D. Toppin & Son	Ampoules (five millilitres).	80 milligrammes per millilitre
			Tablets.	50 milligrammes.

## Toxicity.

Side effects of minor importance are common. Sedative effects occur in from 20 per cent. to 60 per cent. of cases with ordinary doses. It is more common with preparations of greater potency, such as "Phenergan" and "Benadryl." In many cases the physician can take advantage of this sedative action. It is obviously dangerous for car drivers, aeroplane pilots and others performing responsible work to take such preparations. With continued administration the drowsiness often passes off; but when it continues to be troublesome in spite of varying the preparation, combined use with amphetamine is recommended.

Less frequent are abdominal discomfort, nausea and vomiting. Nervous stimulation occurs in a few patients, who become talkative, nervous, apprehensive and restless. Dizziness, unsteadiness and tremors may occur.

Considering the widespread use of antihistaminics, both with and without medical prescriptions, serious toxic effects are very rare. A number of such cases have been reported, some apparently due to idiosyncrasy, others to overdosage.

Disorientation, delusions, confusion and delirium occurred in a woman after 2000 milligrammes of "Benadryl" taken in 48 hours. Recovery occurred 48 hours after suspension of the drug. Behaviour disorders, muscle twitchings, labyrinthitis, blurred vision and the precipitation of fits in epileptics have been reported.

Agranulocytosis has occurred, in one case after the taking of "Anthisan" for three weeks, with "Pyribenzamine" on a number of occasions, and with "Diatrin." Haemolytic anaemia has occurred after the administration of "Benadryl" and "Pyribenzamine."

Various types of allergic skin rashes have been reported, though no cases of severe exfoliative dermatitis.

There is an increasing number of reports of fatalities, mostly in infants. It has been frequently pointed out that the dispensing of antihistaminics as attractively-coloured sugar-coated dragees is dangerous in this respect. Fatal doses of 100 milligrammes of "Thenylene," 400 milligrammes of "Benadryl" and 600 milligrammes of "Anthisan" have been reported in children under the age of two years.

Fatal symptoms are convulsions, respiratory depression, hyperpyrexia and coma. Death occurs in from one to 20 hours.

There is little in the way of data on effective treatment. Symptomatic measures, either sedative or stimulant, have been generally used. In a leading article "The Lancet" (Editorial, 1950) suggests the subcutaneous injection of histamine acid phosphate in doses of one milligramme per kilogram.

## Conclusion.

It may be concluded that the introduction of the antihistaminic drugs has made a very real addition to the all too scanty therapeutic resources of the doctor.

There is no doubt that they have been abused. This is inevitable when their use is directed to the extensive and ill-defined field of allergy. Their unlimited sale over the counter has also contributed to excessive and misplaced usage.\*

On the other hand, there is little doubt that in many cases they have been wrongly discarded as useless because they have not been used intelligently.

It is clear that finding the right dose of the right preparation for the right patient constitutes a problem for the physician, the solution of which may be fairly called the art of treatment.

RALPH READER.

Sydney.

\* In some Australian States the supply of antihistaminics is restricted to medical prescription.—Ed.

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## NEW DRUG REDUCES HAEMORRHAGE MORTALITIES

By L.G.D.

A new drug, Mephyton, that has proved more effective than blood transfusions in saving victims of certain types of haemorrhages, has been added to the physician's armamentarium. The new agent promises to cut down drastically on the mortality rate among the thousands of victims of blood-clotting diseases, who are being treated with certain anticoagulant drugs, and other conditions of inadequate blood-clotting, resulting from vitamin K deficiency or abnormal utilisation of vitamin K. Mephyton, produced by Merck & Co. Inc., Rahway, New Jersey, in the form of an emulsion, is the company's brand name for vitamin K<sub>1</sub>.

Victims of thrombosis, or blood-clotting, are generally treated with anticoagulants, which, though necessary, are potentially dangerous and sometimes result in haemorrhages that are difficult to stop. Thus, such treatments must be accompanied by time-consuming and costly tests to determine patients' reactions, particularly with respect to the time required for certain phases of blood coagulation.

The danger of anticoagulants has been particularly great because of the absence of a dependable agent for reversing the effects of overdoses, or for overcoming hyper-reactivity in patients with particular sensitivity to



certain types of anticoagulants employed. Hitherto, the most reliable measure for counteracting haemorrhages, or potential haemorrhages of this kind, was the administration of whole blood. However, this counter-effect is both incomplete and of short duration.

In extensive clinical tests carried out, it has been found that Mephyton is unfailing in its counteraction and, moreover, that this counteraction is detectable within 15 minutes. A safe degree of the particular phase of blood coagulation is usually achieved in three to six hours, protecting the patient against death from a haemorrhage, and complete reversal of the anticoagulant effect takes place within four to 12 hours. Bleeding is usually checked in three to six hours, without the need of blood transfusions for the achievement of this effect.

The new drug also is valuable in surgery. Frequently it is necessary to perform emergency surgery on a patient who has been treated with anticoagulants, which increases the danger of haemorrhages. Depending on the anticoagulant used, administration of Mephyton shortly before the operation ensures safe blood coagulation.

The recently discovered substance has been found effective also in combating a particular type of coagulation deficiency in the newborn and in conditions which prevent absorption of the vitamin from the intestinal tract, such as sprue, ulcerative colitis, celiac disease and obstructive jaundice.

## GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL—APPROVED NAMES

The British Pharmacopoeia Commission has requested that the following list of names, approved by the General Medical Council, for drugs be published.

### Approved Names.

#### Supplementary List, April, 1953.

Approved Name.	Other Names.
Benethamine Pencillin	<i>N</i> -Benzyl-2-phenylethylamine salt of benzylpenicillin.
Bismuth Glycolylarsanilate	Bismuthyl <i>N</i> -glycolylarsanilate
Cetrimonium Chloride	Milibis.
Hexachlorophane . . .	Hexadecyltrimethylammonium chloride.
Hexachlorophane . . .	Di-(3:5:6-trichloro-2-hydroxyphenyl)methane Hexachlorophene.
Hyaluronidase . . . . .	Enzymes which depolymerise hyaluronic acid.
Iodothiouracil . . . . .	4-Hydroxy-5-iodo-2-mercaptopyrimidine.
Iopanoic Acid . . . . .	Itrumil is the sodium derivative. 2-(3-Amino-2:4:6-tri-iodobenzyl) butanoic acid.
Methylpentynol . . . . .	Telepaque.
Methylpentynol . . . . .	3-Methylpent-1-yn-3-ol.
Nitrofurazone . . . . .	Oblivon; Somnesin.
Nitrofurazone . . . . .	5-Nitrofur-2-aldehyde semicarbazone.
Pentaerythritol Tetranitrate . . . . .	Furacin.
Pentaerythritol Tetranitrate . . . . .	2:2-Bishydroxymethyl-1:3-propanediol tetranitrate.
Phenylephrine . . . . .	Pentaerythryl Tetranitrate.
Phenylephrine . . . . .	(-)-1- <i>m</i> -Hydroxyphenol-2-methylaminoethanol.
Procainamide . . . . .	Neophryn is the hydrochloride; Neosynephrine is the hydrochloride.
Procyclidine . . . . .	4-Amino-2-(diethylaminoethyl) benzamide.
Procyclidine . . . . .	1- <i>cyclo</i> Hexyl-1-phenyl-3-pyrrolidinopropan-1-ol.
Sulphasomidine . . . . .	Kemadrin is the hydrochloride.
Sulphasomidine . . . . .	6- <i>p</i> -Aminobenzenesulphonamido-2:4-dimethylpyrimidine.
Sulphasomidine . . . . .	Sulfisomidine.
Sulphasomidine . . . . .	Elkosin.

## NARCOTIC DRUG REQUIREMENTS

### 1953 Estimates.

The statement of the Drug Supervisory Body (United Nations publication sales number 1952, xi 10, Stationery Office, price 3/9), which details the estimated world requirements of narcotic drugs in 1953, shows that the high consumption of diacetylmorphine is still causing some concern. Although there has been a trend towards lower consumption of the drug in some countries, particularly Finland, over the past few years, Australian consumption has risen from 2.42 kilos per million-inhabitants in 1946 to 5.25 kilos in 1951—a phenomenon which is being investigated by the Australian Government. The 1951 figure for the U.K. also showed an increase—2.38 kilos per million inhabitants as compared with 1.91 kilos in 1946. There is a growing inclination of governments to prohibit the use and manufacture of the drug, and, in 1951, no fewer than 50 states reported to W.H.O. that they had discontinued its medical use, or were prepared to do so. In Sweden, manufacture was discontinued in January, 1952, and in the Union of South Africa, Switzerland and a number of non-self-governing territories, its use has been forbidden.

The report draws attention to the need for countries to estimate their requirements more accurately. In 1951, for instance, there was a 28 per cent. overestimate of world requirements of morphine, the United States being responsible for half this overestimate. About 90 per cent. of the morphine used for conversion into other drugs goes to the manufacture of codeine and world requirements for this drug were overestimated to the extent of 27 per cent. in 1951. The tendency to overestimate is even more marked in the case of cocaine, the difference in 1951 being 4659 kilos, or 75 per cent. The use of pethidine and methadone continues to expand and there has been a substantial rise in estimates, particularly for the former drug. The estimates submitted by Pakistan for 1952 and 1953, although stated to be provisional, were considerably higher with respect to morphine and cocaine than the actual consumption reported to the Permanent Central Opium Board. No reply was received by the Supervisory Body, who inquired whether the 1952 estimates could not be reduced, and in the final estimates the figures for morphine and cocaine were raised still further. The following are among the estimated world requirements for 1953: Morphine, 92,471 kilos; diacetyl-morphine, 302 kilos; cocaine, 3784 kilos; pethidine, 17,928 kilos; methadone, 1054 kilos; phenadoxone, 157 kilos.—Pharm. J., January 17, 1953.

## TELEVISION IN U.S.A.

In the days of radio it was not too difficult to call at a friend's home and interrupt the programme being heard. With television things have changed. The well-mannered visitor now must sit quietly until the current programme ends if he wishes to be welcome. Children at times do not even acknowledge the intruder's presence, and even fail to hear their parents' admonition to speak to the guest.

This monopolisation of the home and its replacement of the usual social intercourse between family and friends is not without its disadvantages. Chief among these is that the immature mind is moulded readily by the programmes which transfix its total attention. While we do not wish to be a Pollyanna, some of the happenings on the TV screen make ordinary mayhem and murder seem dull indeed. While good usually triumphs over evil, the viewer is carried through all the intricate and sadistic details of the most gruesome acts imaginable. Close-ups of corpses, profuse haemorrhage, etc., are quite commonplace, and the most minute details of the perfect crime are unfolded before the entranced spectator. At the other extreme the TV audience is confronted with a steady parade of comedians who seemingly never have had a serious or worthy thought. The studio audience is prompted to laugh at each joke, and in the end laughter becomes a conditioned reflex even in the TV audience and even when the joke is not at all humorous.—"American Journal of Pharmacy."





# Applied Pharmaceutics

## DISPENSING PROBLEMS

### Unusual Order for Lime.

R/  
 Calcis Viva . . . . . 5%  
 Sulphur Sublimis . . . . . 10%  
 Aq. ad . . . . . 4 fl. oz.  
 Sig. m.d.u. face.

"Calcis Viva" is quick lime. To make this preparation we followed the directions for Liquor Calcis Sulphuratae A.P.F.

—H.M. (Vic.).

### Cortisone Eye Drops from a Tablet.

I recently received a prescription which read:—

R/  
 Cortisone Tablet . . . . . i (supplied)  
 Aq. Dest. ad . . . . . 120 m.  
 The Eye Drops.

A tablet, presumably Cortisone, wrapped in cellophane, was attached to the prescription.

As far as could be ascertained, the Cortisone content of the tablet is insoluble, and it was not known what type of filler was used, quite possibly also insoluble.

References to the literature and inquiries from several sources could not supply the answers.

The prescription was ultimately dispensed by powdering the tablet, forming a suspension with distilled water, and straining through silk. No residue remained, and the resulting drops formed a very fine suspension.

Your comments on this method would be appreciated, particularly as regards the unknown substances contained in the tablet, and the advisability or otherwise of their inclusion in the drops.

—D.C.W. (Vic.).

Tablets, particularly those for oral use, may contain excipients, disintegrants and lubricants. These may be chosen from a wide range of substances such as starch, acacia, syrup, gelatin, theobroma, talc, stearates or boric acid. Many special substances are used.

Such a method has been used for suspending insoluble sulphonamides in eye drops. It is not, however, recommended as a general method, especially where ophthalmic preparations and sterile suspensions are available.

Although most of the fillers used are probably safe, one is rarely in a position to know exactly what an oral tablet contains. Solution tablets for injection are a different matter.

In an emergency or where a new drug is not presented in the desired form, few pharmacists would object to co-operating with the prescriber in obtaining the necessary presentation. Under the circumstances of the above prescription, the prescriber should be dissuaded from this method of prescribing.

### Quillaia Used to Emulsify Application.

The following is a copy of a prescription presented at the pharmacy:—

R/  
 Menthol. . . . . 60 gr.  
 Thymol.  
 Chloral. Hyd. . . . . 120 gr.  
 Eucalyp.  
 Chlorof. . . . . 2 fl. oz.  
 Ol. Gaulther. . . . . 1 fl. oz.  
 Sp. Vin. Rect. . . . . 1 fl. oz.  
 Aq. ad . . . . . 8 fl. oz.  
 Ft. pig. Mitte 2 fl. oz.

Sig. To moisten affected areas when troublesome.

This was dispensed as written with the addition of 60 m. Tinct. Quillaia per fl. oz. of preparation. The emulsion thus formed held for a few minutes, a sufficient length of time to enable the patient to apply it. It was dispensed with a "Shake the Bottle" label.

The proportion of Quillaia used is rather low. Liquid Extract of Quillaia 30m. in 2 fl. oz. of paint would be a better proportion.

## NOTES ON THE NEW A.P.F.

The following new items should prove of interest to readers. Polawax of commerce fulfils the requirements of the new product Sorbolene:—

Sorbolenum  
 (Sorbolene)  
 Sorbolene

Sorbolene is an emulsifying wax of the Cetostearyl Alcohol type, in which the primary emulgent is a polyoxyethylene derivative of sorbitan ester or some other "non-ionic" substance. **Note:** When Emulsifying Wax is prescribed, a self-emulsifying wax of the Sorbolene type may be dispensed, if it is considered that the Sodium Lauryl Sulphate of the official product may inactivate the medicament ordered.

Cremor Sorboleni Aquosus  
 (Crem. Sorbolene. Aquos.)  
 Aqueous Sorbolene Cream

Synonyms: Non-ionic Cream, Crem. N.I.A.

Sorbolene . . . . . 50 gr.  
 Hard Paraffin . . . . . 25 gr.  
 Liquid Paraffin . . . . . 200 gr.  
 Chlorocresol . . . . . 1 gr.  
 Distilled Water to . . . . . 500 gr.

Melt the Sorbolene with the paraffins at about 75°. Dissolve the Chlorocresol in the Distilled Water at about 75°. Mix, and stir until cold.

Use: A stable non-ionising cream with a wide range of compatibility.

# No Cuts in "Free" Medicine Payments, Say Victorian Chemists

## Enthusiastic Mandate for Mr. Scott

### Special Meeting at College of Pharmacy

Amid scenes of enthusiasm a meeting of city and suburban chemists who "packed to the rafters" No. 1 lecture theatre at the Victorian College of Pharmacy on Wednesday, May 26, unanimously endorsed the action of the Guild Federal President (Mr. Eric Scott) and his colleagues on the Federal Council in rejecting Commonwealth Government proposals to cut chemists' terms for dispensing "free" medicine.

By resolution the meeting pledged itself not to deal individually with the Government in the event of a crisis in negotiations, but only through the Guild.

Rarely has such enthusiasm and unity been shown by a meeting of Guild members. The special meeting had been called by the President of the Victorian Branch of the Guild (Mr. W. R. Iliffe) to hear addresses by Mr. Scott and Mr. Keith Attiwill, Federal Director of Pharmacy Public Relations. The speeches were punctuated by outbursts of applause. Mr. Iliffe occupied the chair, and Mr. Norman Keith, metropolitan Vice-president, supported him.

#### Canberra's Challenge Accepted.

Mr. Scott opened by saying bluntly that in recent exchanges with the Government representatives it had been suggested that in such matters as P.M.S. prices the Federal Guild leaders did not know what the average Guild member was thinking. He had always believed that he spoke for the overwhelming majority of Guild members. The Government taunt was a challenge which he had promptly accepted. With Mr. Attiwill he had addressed a large percentage of Victorian Guild members at four meetings in the previous fortnight—at Ballarat, Bendigo, Traralgon and Warrnambool. The Guild members had travelled long distances. They had endorsed unanimously his refusal to consider lower remuneration for P.B.A. or to postpone, one moment longer than was necessary, the introduction of a pre-pricing system for P.M.S. in place of the averaging scheme. He had come to the city meeting curious to know whether the solidarity of the country chemists would be mirrored in the metropolitan area. Would any one of them yield in a crisis to the possible subtle enticements of a Government? Would there be renegades in such a fight? He wanted to know that night from the city and suburban chemists themselves whether in going to Canberra and refusing to entertain cuts in P.B.A. payments to chemists he could look over his shoulder and see an army of chemists marching behind him. (Applause.) Any terms reached with the Government would before acceptance have to be endorsed by a majority of chemists by plebiscite, but before proceeding further with the Canberra talks he wanted to hear from the chemists of Australia themselves. After the Victorian meetings he would go to New South Wales and address 11 meetings in 10 days.

#### Meeting with Minister on June 12.

Mr. Scott added that the Minister for Health (Sir Earle Page) would meet the Guild Executive in Sydney on June 12, and that would provide an opportunity to tell Sir Earle Page what was the degree of unity among members of the Guild, and just how much basis there was for the allegation that the members were not loyally behind their leaders.

#### Mr. Scott's Review.

Mr. Scott went on to review the P.B.A. problem from the inception of the Page scheme. "When the Page plan was put before us," he said, "it was not a compounding scheme, but we hoped that at a later stage compounded medicines would be added. The agreement was the same as that for the McKenna scheme, which was negotiated on the basis of compounded medicines. The new Government did not mind, so long as the cost did not exceed £7 million a year.

"But when it reached that figure," Mr. Scott said, "the Treasury said that the cost of the scheme must be cut down. And, apparently, the only people to be cut down are the chemists. The doctors, under the pensioner medical service, have been given two handsome increases by the Government.

"The Minister began a series of talks with the Guild Negotiating Committee, and asked us to accept a reduction, which we refused to do. The Government claimed that the P.B.A. agreement contained certain anomalies which must be ironed out. It said that the dispensing fee was too large. It had been arrived at by a weighted average, upon the incidence of prescriptions over the whole Commonwealth. All classes of medicine had been lumped together to obtain a weighted average. The Government admitted that this would have been fair if the McKenna scheme had blossomed forth; but contended that under the Page non-compounding scheme it allowed chemists to make an exorbitant profit.

"The department claims that on tablets we will have to take considerably less profit, and on injectables less still," said Mr. Scott. "It says that the Page scheme brought chemists a new type of business and brought a lot more money into the pharmacy. The department contends that the volume of dispensing on certain lines of tablets (such as the sulpha group) has created an anomaly because chemists doing a big P.B.A. business get a big discount on their buying."

#### "Thomas Table is Wrong!"

Mr. Scott, continuing, said that the department had declared that the Thomas table was wrong under the Page scheme. Its original purpose had been to protect the one-man pharmacy against loss through broken quantities, and the department said that the tremendous velocity of tablets, and the large buying, had removed the waste for which the Thomas table had been evolved.

#### Attack on On-Cost.

The department's third point, said Mr. Scott, was that the chemists' on-cost was too high, because of the large number of antibiotics now in the Page list. "Although the furniture stores, the plumber, the barber and the garage-man can charge huge sums, on-cost being 100 per cent. for example on furniture, we have no right, according to the department, to 33-1/3 per cent. under the Page scheme!"

#### The Guild's Answer: "Heavy Losses" on P.B.A.

"The Guild contends that pharmacy has suffered heavy financial losses under the Page scheme," declared Mr. Scott, "through lines being taken off the list without notice. The time element has been very considerable to

chemists. The after-hour fee is far too low. There is the lack of payment for writing out repeat prescriptions.

"We have tabled these anomalies because we contend that pharmacy cannot afford to reduce its professional fee at all! (Applause.) To estimate the value of the chemists' professional attainments at 1/6 is to my mind a miserable pittance. (Renewed applause.)

"One suggestion—and it comes from the Guild's Statistical Bureau—is a discount system to meet the department's claim that chemists with big P.B.A. accounts are making too much money, while the original McKenna terms are allowed to apply to the Page scheme.

"Under the Bureau's plan," Mr. Scott explained, "the relatively few chemists doing a large volume of P.B.A. work would concede a discount (up to 8-1/3 per cent. from the handful of chemists with the highest P.B.A. accounts). The great bulk of the chemists get very little out of P.B.A., and the discount scheme would start at 1/4 per cent.

"But in the mood of the chemists whom Mr. Attiwill and I have addressed, and to whom we have listened in informal talks after the meetings, Guild members will stand firm and demand not cuts but a more sympathetic understanding of our peculiar problems by the Government!" (Loud applause.)

#### **Toward P.M.S. Pre-Pricing.**

Turning to the Pensioner Medicine Service, Mr. Scott said that the averaging scheme had been accepted by the Federal Council without proper examination, but fortunately there was provision for re-examination in 12 months.

"The number of letters I receive over P.M.S. lead me to believe that it is unpopular because of the averaging system. Consequently, we have told the Government that we will not go on with it; they must pay us for what we dispense. (Applause.) The Government demurred: to bring in pre-pricing seems rather a big job for Canberra. The whole of the formulary must be pre-priced. Drugs which fall outside the recurring items in the list must be priced separately.

"When we ask why it cannot be done, the department pleads the necessity of bringing out a different wholesale list for each State. Last week Mr. Attiwill and Mr. Evans went to Canberra determined to nail them down. They came back with a suggestion that the formulary and other standard prescriptions be pre-priced. All other formulae to be subject to the present average scheme. Where prescriptions occur and recur in different localities they are to be pre-priced from time to time, so that at the end of 12 months very few would not have a price on them. The idea rather appeals to me, and the Federal Council, I am sure, would be prepared to accept a scheme like that for a fair trial."

Mr. Scott's address was greeted with the utmost enthusiasm throughout. "There is no doubt that the chemists present, representing more than half of the metropolitan area, are right behind me," said Mr. Scott. "This is the answer that I shall take to the Government spokesmen, and I am confident that it will be endorsed by chemists all over Australia."

#### **"The Three 'Must Nots': Mr. Attiwill.**

Mr. Attiwill was applauded upon rising to support Mr. Scott. He said that a careful analysis of the National Health Bill, which consolidates all health service legislation, contained some disquieting provisions which the Guild was determined to fight. To bring its full power to bear the Guild must have unity. The three "must nots" arising from the Government's proposals were:—

- (1) They must not reduce the dispensing fee;
- (2) They must not destroy the Thomas table;
- (3) They must not cut the chemists' on-cost.

"If you stand firm on these points," said Mr. Attiwill, "you will have survived the stiffest test of loyalty the Guild has ever faced. And you will have given a demon-

stration of strength and professional solidarity that will make so much less difficult our fight for justice and equality with others interested in Sir Earle Page's consolidating Bill which we expect will go before Parliament later this year." (Applause.)

Speaker after speaker then rose and paid warm tributes to Mr. Scott and his colleagues.

A New South Wales Guild member: Mr. Chairman, I am a visitor from Sydney. May I speak?

Mr. Iliffe (Chairman): Certainly, sir. You are welcome at any Guild meeting.

The N.S.W. Member: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And may I say that there need be no doubt in anybody's mind about the attitude of the New South Wales chemists. They are right behind the Guild.

The following resolution was passed:—

**"That this meeting fully supports the Federal Council in its negotiations with the Government and in the event of a crisis we pledge ourselves not to deal individually with the Government, but only through the Guild. And we call on the State President to circulate this motion to all members in the State, requesting their signed pledge of support."**

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite, in a delightful little speech, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Scott and Mr. Attiwill, whose hard work had earned for them the confidence and sincere gratitude of all present.

The motion of thanks was passed unanimously and with prolonged applause.

## **APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM—AMERICAN VIEW**

According to Leib L. Riggs, President of the Oregon Board of Pharmacy, in an article on the apprenticeship system, published in "The Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association," it is generally accepted that there is no better way to become proficient in applying academic knowledge than in actually applying it to practice under proper conditions and supervision. It may be argued that the practical experience requirement is merely the last remaining portion of the old apprenticeship system used in the days preceding our present form of academic training. This is admitted, but the opposing argument is that this is the one portion of the old system that should be retained. The pendulum should not swing too far to the theoretical side, eliminating the desirable features of the past. Our fathers and grandfathers obtained their training almost entirely by the practical experience route. This was true not only in pharmacy, but in law and other professions and crafts. In the old days if the student learned theory, it was necessary that he gain it by personal perseverance without the aid of competent instructors. We have placed great stress on the improvement in instructional methods used to teach theory, but it would appear that we have neglected to take notice of the need for improved methods of obtaining practical experience under proper supervisory conditions.

#### **The Trend in Medicine.**

All agree that medicine has reached the highest level among all the professions with respect to its achievements in raising standards of education and practice. It is interesting to note that the medical profession has realised the importance of practical application of theoretical knowledge. It has not only devised very rigid requirements for the regulation of the required one year of internship following medical school, but has added as much as two or three years additional for those who desire to qualify for certification by specialty boards.



# The Social Sciences

## Fellowship Course in South Australia—Continued

### LECTURE 10: MODERN INTEREST IN MANAGEMENT TRAINING.

The lecturer opened the last session by explaining in some detail that, in one's own environment, one can do as one likes; but, in the environment of the employee, one can only do as conditions of management allow. In present-day democracy there is generally the right concentration on conditions under which people work. This is, of course, governed by economic conditions.

**Management training** is now an accepted course in all States—here in the School of Mines—Sydney leading the way with the most elaborate course at the University of Technology.

The courses generally begin by training for supervisors, then departmental management, then higher and advanced functional management, e.g. production management, financial management, marketing management, personnel management.

Under Personnel management is the important subject of Environmental Control, one aspect of which is colour dynamics—colour as an aid to comfort, efficiency, safety and its later application as a stimulus to certain moods or actions.

#### Colour Dynamics.

We perceive colour because we are equipped with differential nerve endings in the retina of the eye.

Colour — is perceived by means of cones.

Black and white — by means of rods.

These cones are bunched close to the main optic nerve, then thin out towards the side. Therefore, if colour comes from the side, it is harder to perceive or see.

Colour blindness is a term used to designate one who is not truly colour conscious—has colour defect. Colour blindness is rarely absolute. This term is used to describe a condition where a person is unable to correctly recognise some colours. This lack of ability varies from individual to individual, and is found principally in men. About 1 in 20 men show some degree of colour blindness, but the trouble is rare in females. The milder degrees of colour blindness are caused by the lack of cones spoken of earlier.

The condition is essentially of an hereditary character, and passes from the male through the female to the male of the succeeding generation without the female being affected. The condition is incurable.

The lecturer then demonstrated one of the standard tests for colour blindness, consisting of a series of coloured prints composed of irregular designs. Most of the prints included a number, e.g. 12, 8, 6, 5, 74, 2, 6, 5, 7, made up of coloured dots in colours differing from the main design; but a few were without such a number.

Having found that the group did not include a colour-blind person, the lecturer explained that such a person would state that he saw a number—say 2—in the designs which did not include a number at all, or included some other number. The series of prints were varied and graded so as to bring this deficiency to the notice of the person giving the test.

Colour blindness was a great handicap in a number of callings. The inability to distinguish red stopped such a person being employed as a driver on a public transport system, and would cause a vocational guidance officer to advise a boy not to enter pharmacy where colour perception was important.

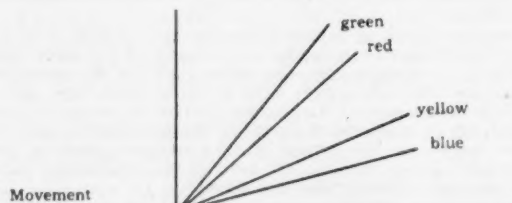
(Note: In recent years several colour-blind boys have become pharmacists in South Australia.)

Colour blindness could, and did, lead to difficult situations in social life, particularly if the sufferer was not aware of his trouble. Such a person reacted differently to normal persons when subjected to much of the colour stimulus of modern life.

Colour perception, or the ability to perceive and recognise colour at an angle, does not vary greatly with individuals.

Most people are able to perceive movement at an angle closely approximating 180 deg., but the recognition of colour is not so great. The angle at which colours can be perceived varies with the colour, blue being recognised at a greater angle than yellow. Red can only be perceived over an angle which is considerably less than yellow, and green becomes visible only at about 45 deg.

With the aid of coloured cards and a member of the audience, the lecturer demonstrated that the four colours are recognised at angles approximating the following diagram:—



This test is known as the Peripheral Colour Test.

Peripheral colour vision is of importance in factories. Hazards of moving objects should be painted yellow or blue—not red as is usual for the general association of this colour for danger; the angle of vision of red is poor. Yellow is the best colour for both prominence and large angle of vision.

#### Is Red the Best Colour to Indicate Danger?

The old practice of painting danger signs red is therefore not supported by psychological experiment, hence the growing system of painting such signs (at schools) yellow. Simply because the greater angle of vision gives more time for the appropriate mental reaction.

The traditional use of red for danger probably came from the association with blood and fire.

The importance of colour is very great in several industries, perhaps greatest in the textile trade.

Girls engaged to inspect finished cloth for the purpose of detecting flaws needed correct surroundings to enable them to work properly.

Experiments have shown the importance of considering the phenomenon known as the "negative after image" and the value of colour contrast.

The lecturer then showed to several of the group a piece of green paper on a blue card and another piece of green paper on a yellow card.

Each member reported that the green appeared darker on the blue card. When the green pieces were trans-



posed it became obvious that the green pieces were identical in shade.

Mr. Trevor Jones explained that perception of colour is not absolute. What is perceived is determined by ancillary factors; in other words, the context is most important.

On close examination it is found that any colour seen against a coloured background takes on some quality of the **complement** of the background.

Green on yellow takes on some blue and appears darker.

Green on blue takes on some yellow and appears lighter.

The complements are:

Yellow — Blue  
Red — Green  
Black — White

#### Colour in Industry.

If a person gazes (as in textile inspection) at one colour for some time, and then looks up at a white wall, she sees the complementary colour of the cloth being inspected. This is known as seeing the "negative after image" which causes loss of efficiency.

The trouble is very largely overcome by painting the walls grey, which is a neutral colour and suitable for use with the majority of fabrics.

Grey has an almost negative after image.

Another factor is changing intensity of light. To see colours in a darker condition necessitates the accumulation in the eyes of a substance called Rhodopsin or Visual Purple; this takes time to form or accumulate. In light the Visual Purple dissipates, and if lights go out, the Visual Purple has to build up again. One colour only does not cause this dissipation—red.

The judicious use of colour in different types of establishments can therefore be a factor in their commercial success.

Colour also markedly effects mood. The grey walls allow the inspector to rest, and so tend to bring satisfaction in the work place. Similarly, greens and blues, with their association with blue skies and green forests, create a peaceful atmosphere in which people are likely to linger.

For this reason it is sound policy for restaurants including a proportion of red in the decor to discourage people from occupying tables too long.

(Note: Now we know how the junk shops create their exciting atmosphere and why red should not be predominant in the decorations of a pharmacy. Red cannot create the idea of stability.)

At the conclusion of this lecture, Mr. K. S. Porter, President of the Pharmacy Board, thanked the lecturer, Mr. Trevor Jones, for his able presentation of a subject entirely new to most of those present. The lectures had been very well attended, and had proved very interesting. It was obvious that there was room for similar lectures for students within the normal curriculum, and he hoped that such would be ultimately implemented. (Applause.)

### 32 PER CENT. OF PRESCRIPTIONS FILLED IN NEW JERSEY ARE FOR U.S.P. DRUGS

The New Jersey Board of Pharmacy recently evaluated 129 prescription studies made by their pharmacy internes last Fall in as many pharmacies in the State covering 64,753 newly compounded prescriptions. W. E. Powers, the Secretary of the Board, in commenting upon the results, stated that it was not possible to compare the percentage figures with those in previous years because of a change in the categories under which prescriptions were classified.

There were a total of 32 per cent. of these new prescriptions written for drugs official in the U.S.P., which is far in excess of previous figures, because many of these prescriptions were classified in former years under "Specialties" due to the use of trade names. In this survey the Board requested the percentage of new prescriptions written for U.S.P. drugs prescribed under the U.S.P. name, and this amounted to 17.9 per cent. The percentage written for U.S.P. drugs prescribed

under trade names amounted to 14.1 per cent., giving the total of 32 per cent.

Only 3.4 per cent. of the prescriptions were written for N.F. drugs prescribed under the N.F. name, and another 3.1 per cent. were for N.F. drugs prescribed under a trade name, making a total of 6.5 per cent.

There were 1.4 per cent. of the prescriptions covering preparations official in the New Jersey Formulary, 20.2 per cent. for mixtures of U.S.P. or N.F. drugs with drugs not official, and 39.9 per cent. of the prescriptions for drugs not official in either the U.S.P., N.F. or New Jersey Formulary which includes the ethical specialties of the many pharmaceutical manufacturers.

Of the total of 64,753 new prescriptions, 14.5 per cent. included some narcotic drug.

Mr. Powers further commented that the decrease in renewals already noted in the pharmaceutical press was confirmed by the internes, who counted prescriptions refilled during the period of time the new prescriptions were compounded. A decrease from 73.3 per cent. of new prescriptions in late 1951 to 62.1 per cent. of new prescriptions in late 1952 was noted. In figures, 40,226 prescriptions were renewed during the period of time 64,753 new prescriptions were being compounded. This means that only 38.3 per cent. of all prescriptions compounded in the pharmacies surveyed were refills.

—Information received from State of New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Professional Boards (the Board of Pharmacy), 28 West State street, Trenton 8, N.J., U.S.A.

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# The Women Pharmacists' Page

Correspondent: Miss A. K. Anderson.

The Coronation seems to be the most important event in the news these days, and we are all looking forward to receiving first-hand accounts from our fortunate friends who will be in London during that time. Judging from all reports, there will be no scarcity of relievers in England during the next few months!

A letter recently received from Miss Gwenda Bethell, a former Committee member of the Victorian Women Pharmacists' Association, who has just arrived in England, describes her trip from New Zealand via Panama, calling at Pitcairn Island, Christobal and Curacao. The coral itself was most interesting, made more so by the fact that an American commentator boarded the ship at Panama and gave a running commentary going through the locks to Christobal, which takes eight hours. As Miss Bethell is a keen photographer, and has been concentrating on colour work, we in Victoria are hoping to see pictures of her trip, and some of the Coronation procession, on her return to Australia.

## THE WOMEN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA.

The 19th Annual Meeting of the Association was held at the College of Pharmacy on May 7. The President, Mrs. Thompson, opened the meeting, and welcomed new members, especially newly-qualified ones, visitors, and gave a special welcome to Mrs. Bronson, who has just returned from five years in England, and will be remembered as a former Committee member, Miss Pat Grant.

After the minutes of the last annual meeting had been read by the Hon. Sec., the President's Report was presented by Mrs. Thompson, as follows:—

"First of all I consider that we, The Women Pharmacists' Association of Victoria, have had a most successful year, and I am indeed proud to have been your President.

During the year we have had some outstanding lectures which have been very well attended. Mrs. R. G. Casey and Dr. Elizabeth Turner spoke to packed audiences. Dr. Jean White was the guest speaker, to whom we presented the cheque for 30 guineas to assist the Flying Doctor Services. Then the Christmas Party, our main social event for the year, was again an outstanding success.

Another feature of our work is the manner in which the Society and Guild have now come to rely upon us to assist them with supper arrangements at their annual meetings and important gatherings, for which they have frequently expressed their appreciation.

During my term of office I have made several Interstate visits, and have been privileged to meet women of sister Associations in Queensland, West Australia and South Australia, and from these visits have made many friendships; but more particularly I have been able to discuss with officials in these States the proposal of federating the various women's organisations in Australia. This subject will be thoroughly discussed at the forthcoming P.A.A.N.Z. Conference in Sydney in August.

I have been fortunate, too, in being able to entertain several members of these sister organisations whilst they have been visiting our State, and so return the hospitality extended to me.

I have also been called upon on behalf of the Society and Guild to entertain the wives of visiting overseas and Interstate officials.

The theatre nights have been well supported, the proceeds from which have been donated to the Flying Doctor Services or some worthy cause. We are very grateful to Miss MacGillivray for the tremendous

amount of work she puts into arranging the bookings for these entertainments, and I would like to thank her most sincerely on behalf of us all.

Another achievement to our credit is the organising of a women's page in "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy." One of our own members, Miss Agnes Anderson, is the Editress of this page, and is worthy of our thanks and appreciation for the splendid manner in which she has carried out this task.

I would like to offer my personal thanks to the Secretary, Miss Smalley, and the Treasurer, Miss MacGillivray, who throughout the year have kept in close association with me, and have given me, as President, such valuable assistance.

I must also thank the Committee, who individually and collectively have worked with such enthusiasm for the good of this Association, and furthermore I wish to thank the great number of members of the Association who have stood by me loyally during my term of office, and have attended many, if not all, the functions arranged on their behalf.

As I step down from office as President, I wish to say again how proud I have been to have held this office.

In her report, the Hon. Secretary (Miss Smalley) said the year had been a most successful one both socially and financially, with a record number of members, 115, and three apprentice members.

The Treasurer, Miss MacGillivray, then presented the Balance-sheet, which was most satisfactory.

A report, prepared by Mrs. Moorhead, on the National Council of Women meetings, was read by the President.

The election of Committee for 1953-54 then took place, and resulted as follows:—

**President:** Miss J. Caird.

**Vice-Presidents:** Mrs. I. Thompson and Miss F. Smalley.

**Secretary:** Miss A. Anderson.

**Assistant Secretary:** Miss V. Holland.

**Treasurer:** Miss R. MacGillivray.

**Committee:** Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Doyle, Miss Witt, Miss Cornu, Miss Keogh, Miss Maskell.

The new President, Miss Caird, then took the chair, and thanked the members for the confidence they had placed in her in electing her as President. Miss Caird then thanked Mrs. Thompson for all she had done for the Association during her term of office, also Miss Smalley, who resigned from office as Hon. Secretary after six years, for her hard work for the Women Pharmacists during that period.

Before the close of the meeting Mrs. Thompson presented Miss Betty Bevan with a silver cake dish, with all good wishes from the members, on the occasion of her approaching marriage. Miss Bevan, who has just resigned from the Committee after some years, thanked the members for their good wishes, and assured them of her continued interest in the Association.

After the meeting closed at 10 p.m. supper was served in the Museum.

On May 8 a large number of chemists attended a theatre party at the Comedy Theatre to see "Dial M for Murder." An excellent play, with a surprising ending, was enjoyed by everyone. Proceeds towards the Flying Doctor Services.

The next General Meeting will be held at the College of Pharmacy on Thursday, June 4.

## THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

Keen interest in the forthcoming Pharmaceutical Association of Australia Conference was shown by the number who attended the meeting at "Science House" on May 13.

The two vacancies on the Committee were filled by the election of Mrs. David Campbell as Social Secretary and Mrs. J. Curtis as a Vice-President. We welcome these two new Committee members.

The proposed Federal Constitution reached us the day before the meeting, giving us an opportunity to discuss it. A further discussion will take place at the next meeting. All members will have received a copy of this Constitution, and will be better acquainted with its contents before the meeting. Miss Smalley and her Committee are to be congratulated on the job of work they have done in preparing the Constitution.

The remainder of the meeting was in connection with the P.A.A. Conference, and the meeting closed at 10.20 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at "Science House" on Wednesday, June 10, at 8 p.m.

#### **THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS OF QUEENSLAND.**

How well do we know our Poison Regulations? This was the question the Women Pharmacists were asking themselves before our April meeting.

The guest speaker for the night was Dr. Johnson, Deputy Director of Health and Medical Services for Queensland.

What we did not know before was made quite clear by Dr. Johnson as he answered all our questions.

He divided his lecture into two parts—(1) Poisons Regulations, (2) Chemicals in Food.

It was explained by Dr. Johnson that the Director-General in Queensland may restrict advertising claims of all patent medicines marketed in Queensland, and these patent medicines must fulfil the claims of the manufacturers. This clause in the Regulations is strictly policed in Queensland.

The second half of the lecture, although not affecting pharmacists, was interesting to hear. The chemicals added to food as preservatives, etc., are also strictly policed, and Queensland, often criticised as being slow to accept new methods, is being well looked after by our Health Department.

Dr. Johnson made clear the danger of D.D.T. to children.

The Department is proud of its work, and after the lecture we could all agree with the necessity for the restrictions placed on our Food and Poisons Regulations.

Miss Blanchard proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Johnson for an interesting and informative lecture, after which supper was served, and the meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.

#### **THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.**

The May meeting of the Association was held in the Y.W.C.A. Boardroom, Hindmarsh Square, on May 5, at 7.45 p.m. There were 14 members and two associates present, also Mr. Manning and Mr. Turner.

Mr. Manning, a business man, of Charles street, Adelaide, showed coloured pictures of a recent trip to Ceylon, and Mr. Turner operated the projector. The pictures were of a very high standard and very beautiful, and included scenes in Perth, on board two P. and O. liners, Galle Face Hotel, Independence Day celebrations in Colombo. There were also many beautiful scenes of the country they passed through on a round trip by taxi, including rice fields, tea plantations and rubber plantations. Of topical interest were scenes of the locale of the film "Elephant Walk," recently made in Ceylon by Vivien Leigh. There were also glorious pictures of many tropical flowers. Everyone present enjoyed them very much.

At the close of the programme, Mrs. McCook thanked Mr. Manning and Mr. Turner on behalf of the members for a most enjoyable evening. Supper was then served, and members took this opportunity of exchanging news and views.

We were very pleased to welcome four new members, Mrs. C. E. Wilkins, Mrs. H. Southcott, Miss Z. Walsh and Miss J. Bulman (formerly of Tasmania).

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# "Pharmacy and the Pharmaceutical Industry"

By C. W. Robinson, M.P.S., Great Britain.

Pharmaceutical Development Director, Evans Medical Supplies Ltd., Liverpool.

(Based on an address to the Liverpool Chemists' Association.)

When, in 1899, at the age of 83, the late Mr. Edward Evans addressed the chemists of Liverpool on his 70 years' reminiscences of the drug trade, this took his hearers back at once to the reign of William IV. Opium, he recalled, was then an important drug, as it is today, but there were none of its alkaloids, and no tests of its strength, to bother the druggist. It was simply judged by its appearance, and everything depended on the acumen of the dealer as to what he was getting. Among other articles bought and sold in this way was scammony, an esteemed drug at that time. Elegant pharmacy was in its infancy. The blue pill followed by a black draught was considered a remedy beyond compare by nearly everybody. Podophyllin was introduced during the venerable speaker's time under the name of "vegetable Mercury." Among fashionable people there was a craze for nibbling trimmed rhubarb, and whole mustard seed was taken by the teaspoonful as a liver stimulant. As for selling tinctures to druggists, there was not a hope for the wholesaler to do that in those days, for the druggist made them all himself.

The turn of the century saw a rapid intensification of the change which had already begun in the practice of pharmacy. Figures which have been compiled from the prescription books of a number of pharmacies in different parts of England have shown that, dating from about the year 1900, there was a steep rise in the percentage of new prescriptions presented which consisted entirely of proprietary medicines. It would appear that in 1900 considerably less than 10 per cent. of all new prescriptions were for proprietary medicines; this percentage rose to about 30 by 1933. In the two succeeding decades of amazing medico-scientific progress this trend has, of course, been still further accelerated. Some pharmacists, with a nostalgic regard for the days when considerably more scope existed for the actual practice of pharmacy, have in consequence been led to question whether much of the modern tuition of the pharmacist is not wasted. The purpose of this article is to show that, however true it may be that most of the pharmaceutical compounding work has passed from the retail and hospital establishments into the hands of the manufacturers, pharmacy in its new perspective is still, nevertheless, a great adventure, more fascinating surely—if we really have it in perspective—than it ever was before.

Now the transfer of the practice of pharmacy from the shops to the factories has clearly not been due simply to the increased prescribing of proprietary products. For some years before the percentage of prescribed proprietaries began to rise so steeply there were other factors in operation which, by "the inevitability of gradualness," rendered inescapable this ever-increasing transfer of the actual productive function to the manufacturing establishments; moreover, among

the manufacturers themselves, this same trend has led to an increasing degree of specialisation in production. The factors concerned have been such things as the development in successive pharmacopoeias of standards of increasing stringency necessitating measures of analytical control which are either uneconomic or technically impossible to exercise on the limited batches which an individual pharmaceutical establishment needs for its own requirements; and the rapid increase in forms of administration, e.g. tablets and injections, which as a rule can only be produced economically on a manufacturing scale.

Throughout the whole field of pharmaceutical compounding, as in other types of production unrelated to pharmacy, the tendency has been towards the concentration of production, the preparation of bigger batches in order to improve efficiency and reduce costs, and the development of more elaborate methods of standardisation and quality control. These factors, in the field of the ordinary "open-name" or unbranded pharmaceuticals alone, and regardless of the proprietary question, have provided the technical and economic compulsions which have deprived the practising pharmacist of much of the opportunity to exercise his former craft. Add to these the development during the present century, and intensively so during the past 20 years, of a vast range of potent, specific and complex organic medicaments, and it is not surprising that the chances for the ordinary pharmacist to practise pharmacy with his own hands are very circumscribed.

The realistic circumstances of pharmacy in its new perspective, however, are surely these. The pharmacist has gained by statutory recognition a privileged and protected position in the national life. To maintain that position he can never allow himself to fail to keep due pace with the new technical developments in his field which impinge upon him almost daily. His problem is to define himself and his functions. Where does his boundary lie? Where should his education stop? On these questions even the experts seem to disagree. Let us, however, examine the position of the pharmacist in relation to the pharmaceutical industry which now, in effect, "does" most of the actual pharmacy. It is an industry which at the present time produces in the United Kingdom pharmaceutical products to a total value of about 90 million pounds a year, and gives employment to about 50,000 people in doing so. About one-third of this output goes to the pharmacists and hospitals of this country for purely National Health Service purposes; another third goes, mainly through pharmacists, to the public in the form of so-called "household remedies"; the remaining third is exported.

The pharmaceutical industry's contribution to the United Kingdom's export drive thus approximately equals its entire home sales to the National Health



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TBM 41

Service. The figure is at the rate of rather more than 30 million pounds a year in either case. This export contribution represents about a ten-fold increase over what the industry was exporting in 1938, the first complete year before the war. Few other industries can claim so phenomenal a rise and so creditable a performance.

In considering what parts pharmacy and the pharmacist play in the manifold activities of the pharmaceutical industry, we should bear in mind the reckoning that no less than three-quarters of present-day pharmaceutical sales are accounted for by modern products such as sulphonamides, antibiotics, liver extracts, anticoagulants and antimalarials, which have been developed during the last 20 years, and we should trace some of the steps involved in the typical development of a new pharmaceutical product. Not all of these steps may be required in every case, but some are common to them all.

The idea for a new product may come from a variety of sources. It may be inspirational; more frequently it is evolved in discussion between a number of people collectively possessed of knowledge of outstanding medical needs, pharmaceutical considerations, production possibilities and marketing prospects. The conception may arise, either fortuitously or by plan, in the research department itself, or it may result from some observation from the marketing side. Whatever the source of the idea, however, the need for a definite programme of preliminary scrutiny and subsequent research and development to put it into effect—if in fact the idea ever reaches the project stage—is paramount. Such a programme is necessary if only for the purpose of screening and rejecting ideas, which, attractive at first sight, would result in the foisting of redundant or inadequate products on an unwilling market. Should the idea appear worthy of pursuit, the necessity for a plan of research and development is self-evident. The current cost to the British pharmaceutical industry of its research activities has been estimated to be at the rate of two million pounds a year. It can be no exaggeration to say that the phenomenal success of the industry's export drive in the post-war years has been due to a very important degree to the results of these intensive research efforts.

Research is a vague term, and so for that matter is development. Let us assume for our present purpose, however, that research finishes and development begins at the point where the more fundamental or scientific bench work, involving, say, the organic chemist, the physical chemist, the biologist, the pharmacologist and others has been done, and the product is deemed suitable for preliminary clinical trials. For this purpose supplies of the product will probably be produced on a pilot scale, in the course of which valuable lessons will be learnt to enable larger scale production to ensue more smoothly. Should these preliminary trials justify further clinical trials in a wider sphere, this will necessitate the availability of supplies in a marketable form, ready to meet the immediate commercial demand which will result if these trials indicate that the product represents a significant therapeutic advance over other available preparations. The development group, who will have been following the progress of

the project before this stage is reached, and will have given some thought to what they are going to do, must now take care of the following requirements before the product can be put on to the market as a finished job.

Preliminary pharmaceutical formulation work, on the preparation of, say, a tablet, a cream, or an injection, may already have been performed on the supplies issued for the preliminary clinical trial. This formulation will now need to be perfected to confirm both its practicability on a manufacturing scale and its stability in the pack which it is proposed to employ. The science of packaging is itself a special skill, involving the need to keep up to date with the many new materials available, with their functional performance, compatibilities and incompatibilities, and aesthetic qualities. When the final pack is ready, supplies must be sent off at once to selected tropical and sub-tropical destinations, to be stored for varying lengths of time, and returned for testing. Similar stability tests are performed on samples kept under controlled conditions of temperature and humidity at home.

Allied to the packaging problem is the question of labelling. The production economies inherent in having a uniform pack for both home and export are obvious. It is therefore unfortunate that throughout the world there is such a variety of minor rules of a purely local character affecting labelling that this aim, so desirable in everybody's interests, can rarely be completely fulfilled. Our own Purchase Tax Regulations provide a notable example.

The preparation of descriptive insertion leaflets to be included with the product, and of brochures where necessary, giving more detailed information, must also be undertaken. In co-ordination with all this work the patent literature will have been studied and the trade mark registers consulted to ensure that no one else's rights have been infringed. Liaison will have been maintained with the production, purchasing and sales staffs to make sure that the production facilities and the materials will be available to carry out the manufacturing job at the right time and in the quantities likely to be required; costing data will have been worked out and prices fixed. The notifications to the professions and the wholesale trade, and to overseas companies, branches and agencies, must be co-ordinated and a release date fixed or confirmed. The representatives must be briefed. The seasonal timing of the launching may be all important. If, after all these preparations have been made the reports on wider clinical trials are adverse, the launching will not take place at all. If, however, they are satisfactory, then is, or should be, ready to proceed as a well-ordered operation.

We have now traced the main steps involved in the development of modern pharmaceutical products, which, in the aggregate, constitute the bulk of the tangible goods with which the pharmacist is professionally concerned. What part does the pharmacist play in this? Undoubtedly he fulfils an invaluable role as a member of the large team of experts who pioneer the introduction of new and useful drugs. It may be as the pharmacist with additional qualifications in chemistry, who plays the leading part in the more advanced types of formulation and analytical research;

or as the pharmacist concerned with packaging, who is called upon to ensure the functional suitability of the package and the accuracy and legality of whatever is stated on the label; or the pharmacist in marketing or publicity; or as the pharmacist engaged in the actual tasks of production.

What is, or should be, the quality conferred by the possession of a pharmaceutical qualification which equips the holder of it to do some jobs in industry that cannot well be fulfilled by men or women without this handle to their name? Surely it is that the qualification is regarded by the industrial employer as a guarantee that the holder of it has attained to a degree of knowledge of his subject and of dependability in its application that will warrant his being entrusted with commensurate responsibility—in effect, that he possesses the same basic qualities as the public expect to find in retail and institutional pharmacists entrusted with statutory responsibilities. So far as the acquisition of knowledge is concerned it would often appear as though pharmacy is groping for its own boundaries, not knowing how far it can afford to go along the limitless paths of the interdependent medical and chemical sciences, and how far not to go. Nobody can claim that sufficient thought is not being given to this question.

There remains the most important aspect of all, which must continue to link the pharmacist of today, whether he is in retail, hospital or industrial practice, with the pharmacist of the past—the professional dependability which basically must remain his most priceless asset. It is a quality born of a blend of knowledge, which is broad rather than deep, rational self-interest and concern for duty to his fellow-men. It has been acquired in the hard school of realistic experience, and no measures, surely, can be accounted too costly to enable him to retain this quality, to keep abreast of the continuous developments which make new demands on him, and to continue, through service, to earn a proper competence for himself and a rightful standing in the community.

## COUGH REMEDIES

By Gordon Perrins, Ph.C., Ph.D.

A cough is defined as an effort of the lungs to throw off injurious matter, accompanied by a harsh sound, proceeding from the throat. The definition is simple, but over the years the multiplicity of cough mixtures has been bewildering. Some medical teachers have tried to simplify prescribing of cough mixtures, and one professor in Birmingham has given it as his opinion that there are only two cough mixtures which are of use. Varying mixtures will have popularity in different parts of the country, but one practitioner has found that a mixture of ammonium carbonate (not bicarbonate) with a little tincture of opium in water acts very well as an expectorant. As opposed to this, there is a tendency of some prescribers to administer a substance which in itself is intended as a cough cure, with other compounded substances. The first example is as follows:—

R  
Linct. Physepton. . . . . 3i  
Ammon. carbonat. . . . . gr. iv  
Tr. camph. co. . . . . ℥ xii  
Syr. cocillan. co. . . . . ℥ xxx  
Aq. ad. . . . . 3ii  
Mitte 3iv. Sig. 3ii t.i.d. ex aq.

The syrup of cocillana already contains ingredients which in themselves are administered for curing a cough, but here are two old favourites in ammonium carbonate and paregoric, allied to newer products in cocillana and physeptone.

It will be noted that rather less than 30 minims of water are allowed in which to dissolve 4 grains of ammonium carbonate, the solubility of which in cold water is 1 in 4 (slowly). The mixture is to be given in water.

The second example contains:—

R  
Liq. morph. hydrochlor. . . . . ℥ viii  
Elixir heroin c terp. . . . . ℥ xxx  
Ac. hydrocyanic. dil. . . . . ℥ iii  
Syr. tolu . . . . . ℥ xxx  
Inf. rosae acid ad . . . . . 3ii  
Mittee 3ii Sig. 3ii for irritable cough at night.

The elixir of heroin and terpine may be considered sufficient, and three of the ingredients are those present in Brompton cough mixture. The acid infusion of roses has little medicinal value, but serves here to give colour to an otherwise colourless fluid, which in some circumstances might be dangerous, e.g. if the patient considered the whole two fluid ounces to be a single dose.

Syrup of codeine phosphate has gained much popularity as a cough mixture, especially for night-time. A very useful alternative, especially for a person who awakens in the early hours with a cough, is codeine jelly. This contains:—

Gelatin . . . . . 2 drachms  
Glycerin . . . . . 5 fl. oz.  
Codeine . . . . . 6 grains  
Citric Acid . . . . . 60 grains  
Essence of Raspberry . . . . . 1 drachm  
Balsam of Tolu . . . . . 2 drachms  
Elixir of Saccharin . . . . . 1½ drachms  
Distilled Water . . . . . 2½ fl. oz.  
Solution of Carmine, . . . . . a sufficiency.

This should be dispensed in 2 oz. wide-mouth glass jars; the dose is one teaspoonful, which is allowed to dissolve slowly in the mouth. It has not the after-taste of syrup of codeine phosphate.

An unusual prescription for a cough was prescribed by a medical specialist:—

R  
Ammon. bromid . . . . . 3iv.  
Ammon. chlorid . . . . . 3iv.  
Tr. camph. co. . . . . 3iv.  
Syrup tolu . . . . . 3i.  
Aq. menth. pip ad . . . . . 5viii.

The dose is one tablespoonful in water, to be taken half to one hour after meals. If taken on an empty stomach it is likely to cause gastric disturbance and should not be taken immediately following a meal. It is best diluted with one or two tablespoonfuls of cold water. The taste is somewhat nauseous, on account of the chloride and the camphor precipitated from the compound tincture of camphor, but after the first dose, the patient will become used to the taste and one eight-ounce bottle moves the most troublesome cough.

—“The Retail Chemist.”





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# Student Activities

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## The National Union of Pharmacy Students of Australia.

The N.U.P.S.A. Executive and Council members were unable to appoint overseas representatives at the recent Congress at Point Lonsdale. This has now been rectified by the Executive, and Laurie Rudd and Joyce Bostock have been appointed N.U.P.S.A. overseas representatives for 1953. Both Laurie and Joyce will be attending the International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation Conference in Holland. Laurie will be the representative and Joyce his proxy. The Secretary-General of the International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation is very much in favour of student exchange in the South-West Pacific, and it seems certain that the possibilities will be discussed at the meeting. This suggestion arose from the N.U.P.S.A. Congress at Point Lonsdale.

Laurie Rudd is also to attend the British Pharmaceutical Conference in August, and the conference of Federation Internationale Pharmaceutique, to be held in Paris during September. He plans to return to Australia after a tour of Scandinavian countries, where he hopes to contact student organisations. We hope that Laurie will be able to attend the 1954 N.U.P.S.A. Congress in Queensland, and report on his experiences and work with the International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation and other Pharmaceutical bodies.

The Executive wish to make known that the Queensland N.U.P.S.A. Executive member, Trevor Grice, has resigned his position as Secretary of the National Union. Trevor has resigned due to commitments with National Service training and personal demands on his time, which leave him insufficient leisure to deal with N.U.P.S.A. affairs. The Executive have enjoyed working with Trevor and regret that he is unable to continue his work as an Executive member of N.U.P.S.A.

Arrangements are being made for the election of a new Executive member through the Council Liaison Officer's Bulletin, which is posted monthly to the constituents, officers and councillors. We hope to elect the new member from Queensland, as this would greatly facilitate arrangements for Congress in 1954. John Flood, who is the only Executive member not burdened with studies, has undertaken to fill the position of Acting Secretary.

### Congress Site.

The Executive are considering a very promising site at Caloundra, situated on the Queensland coast, north of Brisbane. The guest house offered to us has adequate room for meetings and spacious verandahs for dancing. All sporting facilities are within easy reach. Congress will be held during January, so arrange your vacation immediately so as not to miss out on the round of interesting discussions and entertainments among pharmacy students from all States of Australia.

### Victorian Pharmacy Students' Association.

The newly elected V.P.S.A. Committee have enthusiastically commenced their activities, and have much to show for their efforts during the past month.

The student library established in 1938 has been reorganised and it is now possible for students to acquire books by consulting their yearly representatives. V.P.S.A. has donated copies of the 1953 British Pharmacopoeia and the 1949 British Pharmaceutical Codex to the library, and hope to receive similar donations from other pharmaceutical bodies.

Our President has succeeded in obtaining discount for students wishing to purchase white coats, and also for those requiring optical attention. Details of the

firms supplying this discount are to be found on the V.P.S.A. notice board.

Special badges have been ordered and will be available shortly to members of the V.P.S.A. Committee. These badges are similar to the official College badge, but are distinguished by a brightly coloured inscription. We hope that by this means students, especially freshers, will become familiar with their representatives and committee members.

The Social Secretary arranged a dance, which took place at the "Forresters Hall," on May 5. An excellent five-piece orchestra, led by a fourth-year pharmacy student, supplied the music, and a very nice supper was enjoyed by those who attended. The dance was a greater success socially than financially, but we hope to make a profit at our next dance, which will take place in early August.

During April the first edition of our newsletter, "The Scruple," for 1953, was published. The new Editor is to be congratulated on his efforts. All students with items of academic or social interest are advised to contact their yearly representatives.

Anzac week-end proved anything but dull for members of V.P.S.A., who spent the week-end at "St. Margaret's Guest House," Healesville. Students left the Pharmacy College in vans on Friday night, and returned to Melbourne on Sunday night, after a very pleasant week-end.

V.P.S.A. Committee had pleasure in entertaining Lionel Leaver at the home of Jean Elder, on May 25. Lionel, who was President of A.U.P.S.A. in 1951, and a N.U.P.S.A. Council member, passed through Melbourne on his way to Adelaide.

The annual Pharmacy Ball is to take place on July 20, at the St. Kilda Town Hall. The pharmacy students will present a short revue known as "Pills a Poppin." This event was instituted three years ago, and has become very popular among the students, who are enthusiastically rehearsing for the new show.

### Adelaide University Pharmaceutical Students' Association.

The new A.U.P.S.A. Committee have elected their executive and office-bearers, who are now actively engaged in planning their year's social functions, the first of which took the form of an informal dance, held in the Lady Syme Hall at the University, on April 17. Over 60 students danced to an excellent selection of recordings, and enjoyed a basket supper.

Committee members have ratified the majority of the motions passed at the N.U.P.S.A. Congress. The more contentious motions are to be referred to the next general meeting in June.

A film on scientific research is to be shown to pharmacy students in the near future. It is hoped that other films along these lines may be obtained and shown to students during the year. Adelaide students are to be addressed on June 10, by Mr. Downie, of the Royal Adelaide Hospital. Mr. Downie is to speak on the Royal Adelaide Hospital Pharmacopoeia.

Arrangements are under way for the annual dinner and ball. The Pharmacy Ball is to take place on June 20, and the students' dinner some time in mid-August.

### A.U.P.S.A. Executive and Committee

President: Neil Banister.  
Vice-President: Brenton Waldke.  
Secretary: Sue Martin.  
Treasurer: David Bishop.  
Social Secretary: Barbara Miller.  
Editor: Phillipp Grummitt.

### Queensland Pharmaceutical Students' Society.

Q.P.S.S. held their annual general meeting in early March, and elected the following students as their representatives:

President: John Gardiner.  
Secretary: Peter Castellaro.  
Treasurer: Elizabeth Ann Thomlinson.  
Publicity Officer: Bill Clarke.



The Queensland Pharmaceutical Students' Association official paper, "The Draught," was published for the first time during last month, and proved very popular among the students.

#### **Sydney University Pharmaceutical Students' Association.**

At the annual general meeting of S.U.P.A., the following officers were elected:

President: Warwick Wilkinson.

Vice-Presidents: Margaret Frith, Peter Christian.

Secretary: Leo Doyle.

Treasurer: David Lowery.

Student Vice-President: John Tucker.

Second Year Reps.: B. Thompson, R. Smith, J. Howard and J. Hayes.

S.R.C. Reps.: Annette Simmons, David Lowery.

Co-opted Member: George Eckert.

A sub-committee has been appointed to arrange the annual ball, to be held in the Union Refectory, on Friday, June 26. The usual large crowd is expected, and early bookings are being taken by the yearly representatives. Prizes and donations are usually given by the local drug houses.

On May 12, Commemoration Day, pharmacy was represented in the procession through the city streets by three floats. One was based on the recent horse doping case, and advertised Coramine with chlorophyl to foil the swab. The other floats depicted a blood bank scheme, and aspects of the transport situation in Sydney for which Alice, an elephant, was obtained from a nearby circus, but she was banned by the police, and did not start in the procession. Festivities concluded that night at the traditional Commemoration Ball at the Trocadero.

Other officially sponsored items of the day were directed by members of the S.R.C., including the two pharmacy, medicine and science reps.

Pharmacy students responded readily when the Red Cross Blood Bank came to the University late in April. In the limited time during which they were at the University many found time to donate their half litre.

#### **W.A. PHARMACY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.**

The Annual General Meeting of the W.A. Pharmacy Students' Association was held at the Perth Technical College on March 24. The existing Committee was re-elected, and the new first year representatives were welcomed to the Committee.

Notice was given of the lecture to be given on May 13 by Mr. Ian Sinclair, recently returned from England, on "Pharmacy in England."

The W.A. "text-book scheme" was explained to members, and inquiries directed to the course year representatives.

These are the first notes from the W.A. Association, as we are still in our infancy, but more will be heard from us from now on.

The W.A. Association became a reality on September 17, 1952, with an inaugural general meeting, having been envisaged by many students for many years. Although only two months before the exams, a Committee meeting, with two representatives from each year, was held five days later, and a constitution drafted. A further Committee meeting was held in the middle of the exams., and arrangements made for a barbecue to celebrate their end; this was held on Saturday, November 22 (two days after the last exam.), at Crawley Bay, and was a tremendous success.

To keep members in touch during the holidays, a tennis day was held at South Perth Zoo, and this was so successful that a further one was held in February.

The Annual General Meeting was the big event for March, and in the middle of April a picnic was held at Darlington, in the hills, and a good time was had by all, the good time including softball, a new game involving a softball and a basketball that was fortunately left unnamed, and swimming in a pool with all mod. cons.

The boys are now talking of a football team, and as we number many good footballers in our ranks, there is no reason why this shouldn't materialise soon. The girls also are interested in forming a team; so get together, girls, and make a go of it.

This year we wish to publish a paper similar to that of the other States, but we require an editor. So what about it, particularly those of you who were on the editorial staff of a school magazine? Remember, this is to be **your** paper for **your** Association. All articles can be handed to your course year representative, or to any member of the Committee. Any subject will be welcomed. You all saw the 1952 "Pharmacy Student" (or should have), and know how varied that is.

Your yearly representatives are:

1st Year: Brian Elliott and Miss Julie Pearson.

2nd Year: Grant Patterson and Miss Pat Roberts.

3rd Year: Colin Kennedy and Miss Judy Norrish.

4th Year: Cliff Carter and Keith Kidd.

Other Committee members: Peter Wall and Bob Boylen.

Other States please note the following:—

W.A.P.S.A. Executive for 1953:

President: Mr. C. O. Carter.

Vice-President: Mr. K. Kidd.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mr. R. E. Boylen.

Would all States let us have a similar list, and put us on their mailing list for copies of their paper?

#### **Tasmanian Pharmacy Students' Association**

After a month of successful social activities members of T.P.S.A. are settling down to some study in preparation for examinations which, unfortunately, are just around the corner.

As student membership fluctuates from year to year the students agreed that the books shall be the property of a more stable body—the Pharmaceutical Society. Wholesalers were approached by the Society for monetary donations, and very pleasing results have been forthcoming. Dr. Burgin is compiling a list of books which will be required in the library. This list will be distributed to Tasmanian pharmacists, who are being asked to donate books. Our thanks must be extended to the Society for displaying so much interest in our student activities.

On April 19, Northern and Southern students met at Ross. Although not as many as we had anticipated were able to make the trip, the day was an unqualified success. Copies of the "Sedative" were distributed to Northerners, and we hope to have some news of Northern interest in the May edition. By the end of the day everyone was thoroughly tired, but even so, spirits were still high, and we are looking to another trip before the end of the year.

Lenah Valley Hall was the site of our dance, held on April 25. It was an informal evening, that proved to be a great success, both socially and financially. The social committee left no stone unturned in their preparations, but all students were responsible in some way for making the dance the grand success that it was. Much of the fun was gained on Saturday afternoon, while supper was being prepared. All those who were present are eagerly awaiting another T.P.S.A. dance, which will have to take place in the distant future, when examinations permit.

Thanks must go to Hobart pharmacists, who so willingly gave their support by buying tickets and making donations.

—Priscilla Morgan-Payler, N.U.P.S.A. Publicity Officer.



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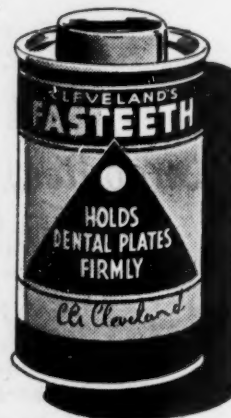
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## Review:

# British Pharmacopoeia 1953

Though statutory provisions relating to the publication of the Pharmacopoeia have been amended by the Medical Act 1950, the General Medical Council retains a responsibility originally entrusted to it in 1858, by virtue of which the first British Pharmacopoeia was produced in 1864.

Intervals between editions have varied widely for many reasons. A uniform interval of ten years was agreed on as suitable, with provision for the current edition to be kept up to date by means of addenda, but the tempo of recent progress has necessarily reduced this, and the B.P. '53 succeeds the 7th Edition 1948 after five years.

The immediate impression of the present edition affords the pleasure of a handsome volume, solidly bound and excellently printed; but a glance between the covers reveals a most outstanding departure from custom in that Latin titles for the monographs have been abandoned in favour of English ones. The erstwhile Latin titles have been retained as synonyms or as subsidiary titles, but none have been coined for new drugs, and the thin and ragged garment of Latin as the universal language of the prescribing art is now officially discarded.

It might be thought that such a change would increase the difficulty of finding one's way through the volume without constant reference to the index, but after a little use it proves to be easier than in previous editions in that the actual drugs are placed in strictly alphabetical order, and each is followed by monographs dealing with the several preparations into which it may enter.

While such a convenient arrangement upsets the immediate alphabetical sequence of the monographs and is at first confusing, alphabetical continuity, so far as it concerns the actual drugs, is effected by an appropriate heading on each right-hand page.

Deletions have been numerous and in some cases courageous, but it is obvious that sentimental attachments to unproved drugs and concessions to medievalism are in the discard. In fact many drugs of quite recent introduction have had to retire in favour of more efficient homologues or equivalents. Such include Acridine, Mandelic Acid and its salts, Chiniofon, Dicoumarol, Hexoestrol, Oestradiol Dipropionate, Oestrone, Sulphacetamide and Thiouracil.

Many of the crude vegetable drugs (and their corresponding galenicals) which have long been candidates for banishment are now missing. These include Aconite, Anethum, Balsam of Peru, Calumba, Capsicum, Catechu, Krameria, Myrrh, Prunus Serotina, Senega and Valerian.

Much heavy artillery among the purgatives becomes obsolete with the exclusion of Colocynthis and its compound extract, Ipomoea and its resin, Podophyllum and Indian Podophyllum, Pills of Mercury, Aloes and Rhubarb, and even that "Big Bertha" of polypharmacy, the black draught.

The retirement of such drugs as Ergot and Strophanthus is a natural sequel to the therapeutic recognition of their active constituents.

While Scilla with its syrup and oxymel will hardly be missed, for the prescription of these has been an article of faith rather than of therapeutic conviction, we are, in many respects, sorry to note that Diamorphine—possibly as part of a global hysteria—has been relegated to the outer darkness of non-endorsement.

There has been a heavy mortality among many classes of galenicals. Infusions are now confined to those involving Quassia and Gentian; those of Glycerin and of

Hamamelis are the only remaining suppositories; Penicillin lozenge is the sole survivor of the Trochisci, while pills have disappeared entirely in favour of tablets. On the other hand, two new groups of medicaments in dosage form make their official debut—Implants (Deoxycortone and Testosterone) and capsules (Chloramphenicol, Male Fern Extract, Halibut Liver Oil, Carbon Tetrachloride and Tetrachloroethylene).

Naturally the drugs added to the B.P. '48 by means of the Addendum are now incorporated in the text of this edition, but many others have been adopted.

Monographs on biological products now include Bacillus Calmette-Guerin vaccine, Scarlet Fever antitoxin and prophylactic, and the Dick test toxin and control. The title "Smallpox Vaccine" is used in place of "Vaccine Lymph" in that this vaccine may now be obtained from chick embryo culture.

The analgesic drugs are reinforced by the inclusion of Methadone Hydrochloride (Amidone) and Phenadoxone Hydrochloride (Heptalgin), while Amidopyrine and Phenazone are discarded—probably because of their association with the development of agranulocytosis.

Ethyl Biscoumarate replaces Dicoumarol as a safer anticoagulant of greater solubility and more rapid absorption and excretion, and another muscle relaxant—Decamethonium Iodide—is added. Cyanocobalamin and Folic Acid increase the scope of the many official vitamins, and Aureomycin complements the antibiotics.

The antiepileptic drugs are increased by the addition of Methoin (Mesantoin)—a modification of Phenytoin, and of Troxidone (Trimethadione) for minor turns. In the case of Troxidone a separate daily dose is quoted for a child, this being somewhat arbitrarily placed at a quarter of the daily adult dose of 1 to 2 grammes.

It is of interest to note that, with practically all of the newer drugs, doses are quoted in the metric system only, it being the obvious intention of the B.P. Commission that a complete change-over to the metric system will ultimately be effected by evolution rather than by a revolutionary edict.

While on the subject of doses, it will be noted that the tendency to greater specificity of direction shown in the previous edition is on the increase. Thus, for Paraldehyde, separate doses are quoted for oral administration, for intramuscular injection, and for rectal injection as a basal anaesthetic. In the case of the oxides and carbonates of Magnesium different doses are cited to meet with their uses as antacids and as laxatives respectively. For treatment of thyrotoxicosis with Potassium Iodide, the dose named is 30 to 60 mg. The maximum dose of Picrotoxin is stepped up to 6 mg., and for the treatment of barbiturate poisoning the maximum dose is given every ten minutes by intravenous injection until corneal reflexes return.

With these examples before us, we cannot but feel that the omission of doses for local anaesthetics, whether by oral administration or by local injection, is a retrograde step. Surely the toxic potentialities of these drugs are such that an authoritative statement of the maximum dose compatible with safety in an average case is desirable. The same observation applies also to such very potent drugs as Tubo-curarine. To dismiss the subject with the statement "The dose is determined by the physician in accordance with the needs of the patient" lacks the authoritative guidance that we have learned to expect from the Pharmacopoeia.

The recognition of the essential role of insecticides, larvicides and insect repellants in preventive medicine is responsible for the inclusion of several drugs of this class—Dibutyl Phthalate, effective against the vector



of scrub typhus; Dimethyl Phthalate, of wider utility; and Dicophane (D.D.T.), the first to achieve official status, but now eclipsed by the more potent and more rapidly acting Gamma Benzene Hexachloride (Lorexane).

While we appreciate that the B.P. is essentially a work for defining physical, chemical and therapeutic standards, its utility would doubtless be increased if it gave some indication of the percentage strengths and the vehicles in which such drugs as D.D.T., Gamma Benzene Hexachloride, Cetrimide and many others might be used for effective application. This indeed had been done in the cases of Benzyl Benzoate and Dimercaprol by their incorporation in an official application and injection respectively. Even in the case of the toxicologically innocent Calamine, the official lotion indicates an effective strength in an amended Bentonite-thickened vehicle.

The very practical provision for a specific dose to be dispensed, or supplied in capsules, injections or tablets where the prescriber has ordered the preparation by name only without specifying the dose, is extended and in a few cases altered. Notable among the alterations in which increases have been made are injections of Insulin which will be supplied at a strength of 40 units per mil, unless a solution of some other strength be specified; alkaloidal eye ointments of Atropine (0.25 per cent. to 1 per cent.) and Hyoscine (0.125 per cent. to 0.25 per cent.); tablets of Propylthiouracil (25 to 50

mg.), Dienoestrol (0.1 to 1 mg.) and Ethisterone (5 to 25 mg.). In the case of tablets of Methylthiouracil, the dose is decreased from 100 mg. to 50 mg.

The Pharmacopoeia enters a new field by including a monograph on a sterilised surgical catgut in which requirements are laid down for diameter and tensile strength in accordance with prescribed methods of test.

This edition under review becomes official in England from September 1, 1953, and will probably be proclaimed in Australia within three months from that date—affording, by then, ample time to study its contents and to note changes as they affect the prescriber.

The production of each successive Pharmacopoeia becomes increasingly complex and onerous, demanding the services of progressively more experts in the wider scientific fields involved in clinical medicine and posology, pharmacology, serological and bacteriological products, antibiotics, hormones and vitamins, galenical pharmacy and pharmacognosy, chemistry in every aspect, sterilisation, biological assay and nomenclature.

The task of the B.P. Commission in blending the work of the many committees and sub-committees involved is a masterpiece of harmonious co-operation—in short, the British Pharmacopoeia 1953.—B.L.S.

29/5/53.

(British Pharmacopoeia 1953, published under the direction of the General Medical Council by the Pharmaceutical Press, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, pp. XXIV 894, published price 50/- stg.)

## THE CENTENARY OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION

To the Australian representative, Mr. W. R. Cutler, President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand, fell the honour of conveying greetings of all the foreign representatives at the historic centenary convention of the American Pharmaceutical Association held at Philadelphia last year.

Mr. Cutler's greeting to American pharmacists was as follows:—

Mr. President, Members of the Council, Members of the American Pharmaceutical Association, Ladies and Gentlemen: On this solemn yet happy occasion, it is my honour and privilege to convey to pharmacists throughout America greetings from pharmacists from 20 overseas nations. I deem it a great honour and privilege to be the one selected to be their spokesman.

I come from one of the youngest nations of this world—youngest but, I say with some degree of pride, not the least.

We have come to pay our tributes and our honour to your Association. We, first of all, pay our homage to the pioneers who founded your organisation some 100 years ago. They laid down the basic principles and the precepts which you people have so ably followed; nay, I would say you have improved. You have brought them right up to the present period, and fitted these precepts in with changing conditions and the advancement of pharmacy, but still adhering to those sound, essential and basic conditions laid down by your pioneers. For that, we, my distinguished colleagues and myself from overseas, congratulate you all.

May we offer you our felicitations on your 100th birthday? May we wish that you go on from strength to strength; that those principles will be amplified, if humanly possible, and that pharmacy will be a power greater even than now in this great country of yours.

The privilege you have extended to me today is rather unique in this regard, that, whilst I am an Australian, by birth, I am an Englishman. And coincidental to the fact, I was born in a town in England some two miles from the birthplace of the founder of

this State—William Penn. I am very pleased to have that unique honour.

I would like to state that, in examining the objectives of organisations built on a similar pharmaceutical plane to yours, I discover that the basic principles are almost parallel. We are actuated by the same motives throughout the democratic world. We are actuated by the principle of, first of all—and I state it with no fear of contradiction—service to the public and the cause of health. That is the fundamental of pharmacy. I think it will always keep the pharmaceutical status if we maintain that principle always in our minds.

Now, as I mentioned before, there are 20 nations participating in your centenary convention. I might even say you have a League of Nations of Pharmacy here, and it is a golden opportunity for us people from overseas to absorb and investigate your methods of teaching our honorable profession, and for which I will now at this moment pay heartiest thanks to all those who have assisted to make our task in this regard so easy.

I feel that we have a lot to do. We have common ground the world over to explore pharmacy's place in the health of the respective nations which we represent. I feel we are only on the threshold of it; and by doing that, by giving service to others, we enhance our status and our respect in the eyes of all. We must work in close liaison with the medical profession in the furtherance of this object, and keep in mind, as I mentioned before, our duty to the public of our respective nations. By doing so, pharmacy will assist the common good, and assist and make its place in the objective of world peace.

On behalf, once again, of these 20 nations assembled here, men who I am proud to know as brother pharmacists, and who we are proud to greet with you all as brother and sister pharmacists, I offer you once again our hearty felicitations on this great occasion, this great celebration, and congratulate you for your projects for the future.

May I express one final hope, that with the aid of our mighty Creator, pharmacy will take its place in ushering in the 1000 years of peace.



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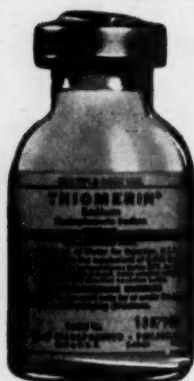
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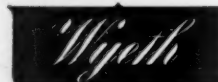
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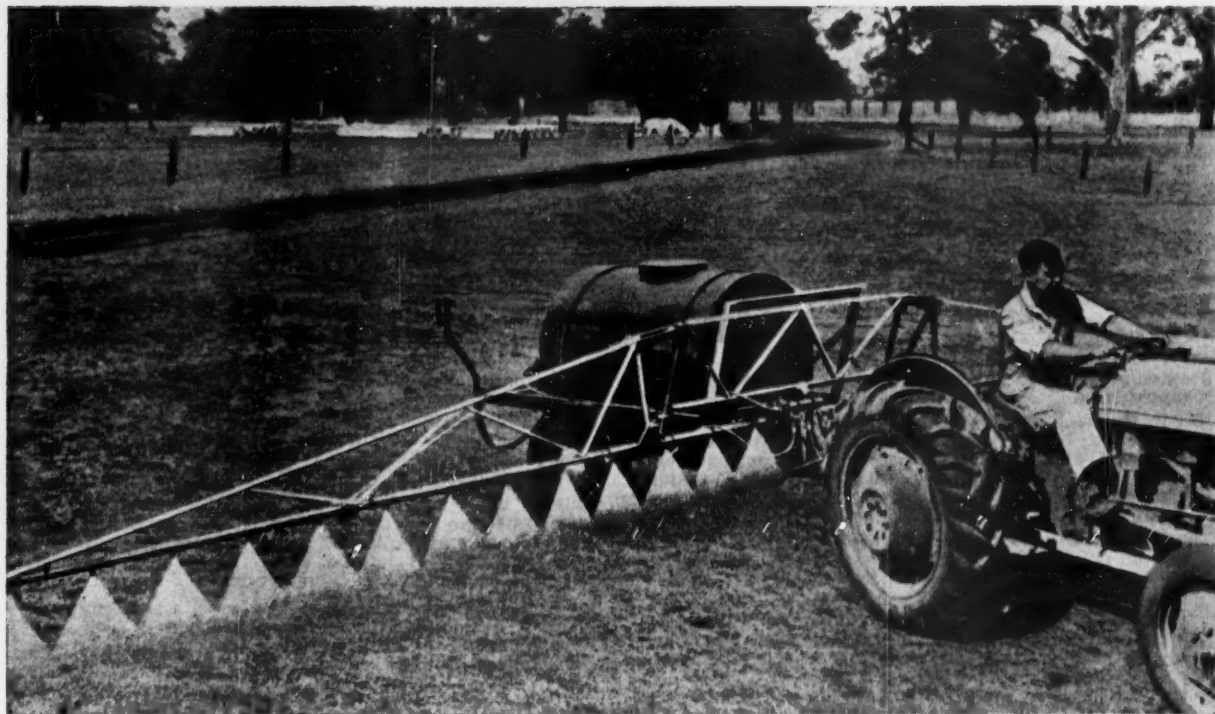


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THIP52





## Weed Control With Chemicals

By K. R. Green, B.Sc.Agr., Weeds Officer.

Reprinted from "The Agricultural Gazette of New South Wales," April, 1953.

**A NEW ASPECT** of the application of science to Australian agriculture has gained prominence during the last ten years—reference is made, of course, to the amazing expansion in the use of herbicides\* which a few short years ago were confined to a few special fields. Now, however, the value of herbicides sold annually in Australia is well in excess of £1,000,000. The treatment of many major weeds has been revolutionised in a short period and a way has been pointed to complete eradication of one of the worst weeds, water hyacinth.

Nevertheless, developments in this field are still in the early stages in both theory and practice. At regular intervals new herbicides are appearing and new uses are being devised for the older ones, so that it may be expected that within a few years herbicides will have an application in the production of most crops.

It must not be forgotten, however, that although chemicals are powerful weapons they should only be used in conjunction with sound farm management practices. A spray may kill a weed, but will not prevent its reappearance, and it is essential that the conditions which favoured the weed in the first place be changed by such methods as pasture improvement, crop rotation and rabbit control. Quite often such methods are sufficient to achieve weed control without the use of herbicides.

\* The chemicals used for the destruction of weeds are referred to in this article as herbicides. This term implies that they will kill plants and not necessarily only weeds. The term "weedkiller" is commonly used in Australia, but this incorrectly implies that only weeds are destroyed. "Weedicide" is a proprietary name, and therefore is not used. "Herbicides" is the term generally used overseas.

### The Beginnings of Chemical Weed Control.

Certain chemicals such as salt and ashes have been used for centuries to keep roadsides and pathways free of weed growth. However, it was only towards the end of the last century that any real progress was made when the rapid development of chemistry and the introduction of chemical fertilisers pointed the way to entirely new practices in agriculture. In 1896 and 1897 workers in Germany, France and America found that salts of copper could be used selectively to kill mustards growing in cereal crops. During the first decade of this century the spraying of cereals with copper, and later, other salts, spread in Europe and Britain. It is of some interest that probably the greatest use of the modern hormone herbicides is for the treatment of the same problem, namely control of mustards in winter cereal crops.

Just prior to World War I the use of sulphuric acid for the same purpose began in Europe. This practice spread quite rapidly during the 20's and by 1934 some half million acres of crop were treated annually in France. The use of sulphuric acid began later in America than in Europe, although it was used quite

This old-fashioned, horse-drawn equipment—an orchard spray adapted for boom spray work—was in use at Leeton Experiment Farm in 1944. The knapsack sprayer (right), used for small-scale work, is losing favour because of difficulty in controlling the rate of treatment. Contrast both pictures with the modern trailer unit on the previous page.



extensively during the 30's. As far as can be ascertained its use in Australia was negligible.

In the field of soil sterilisation common salt has long been used, but very heavy applications are necessary. However, at the turn of the century arsenical compounds were found to be satisfactory and sodium arsenite gradually became the standard herbicide of commerce and is still used very extensively.

Further advances were made during the 20's when sodium chlorate appeared and physiological studies into the action of herbicides were commenced.

The modern era of weed control can be said to date from 1933 with the discovery in France of the first organic herbicides. The material developed was a yellow dyestuff known commercially in Australia as Dinoc, and belonging to the dinitro group. Also used to control mustards in cereal crops, this dinitro was rapidly adopted in Europe and America. During the recent war the so-called hormone herbicides were discovered, and since then the search for new herbicides and research on their utilisation has gone on at an astonishing rate.

In Australia, chemical weed control prior to World War II was mainly confined to the use of arsenicals and chlorates. Arsenicals were used mostly for the control of weeds on railway lines and other areas where complete kill of vegetation was desired, while chlorates were used for control of blackberry, St. John's wort and paspalum, as well as for general weed killing. Coarse salt was used on St. John's wort and for control of weeds on paths and similar areas. There was no commercial spraying of crops for selective weed control.

Commercial crop spraying commenced during the war years with the treatment of carrots and onions with kerosene and dinitros respectively, and has greatly expanded since the war with the treatment of crops and pastures with the various hormone herbicides.

#### Herbicidal Chemicals.

It would be impossible in the course of this article to deal with all the materials which have been used as weedkillers even in the last few years. Quite a number have made headlines for a short period and faded out because of the discovery of something better, or because it has been found that conditions necessary for satisfactory weed control have been so critical as to preclude their commercial use. Thus the materials dealt with below — and they form quite an imposing list — are restricted to those which are in use or which are likely to be used in New South Wales in the near future.

#### How Weedkillers Work.

Before examining individual herbicides, a discussion of their effects on plants and the means by which selective weed control is obtained will assist farmers to understand their applications. The various herbicides may be classified according to their effects into three main groups:

1. **Contact Sprays:** These kill only the plant tissue to which they are applied and include dilute chlorates and arsenicals and oils. Contact sprays may give either a general killing of plant growth or selective killing of certain types of plants.

2. **Translocated Sprays:** These not only affect the plant tissues upon which they are sprayed, but also slowly penetrate into the root system. The hormones are outstanding examples, but in some circumstances arsenicals are also translocated. Once again these may be general or selective in their action.

3. **Soil Sterilisation:** In special cases where prevention of growth is required over some period, such materials as sodium chlorate, coarse salt, arsenite of soda and borax are used.

#### Selective Control.

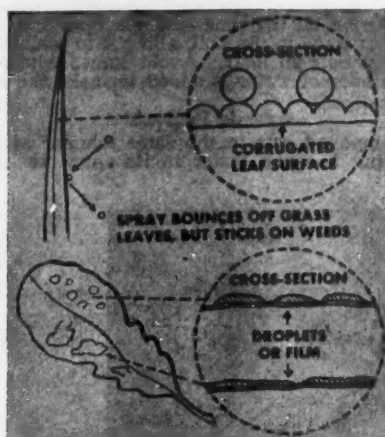
The greatest development in chemical weed control, and undoubtedly also the main future use of chemicals, lies in selective herbicides. In order to understand the use of these materials it is most important to have some knowledge of how selective herbicides work. In this regard we are indebted to the Californian Agricultural Extension Services for an excellent series of diagrams incorporated in their circular on selective herbicides and reproduced here on the next page.

1. **Differential Wetting:** Some plants have leaf surfaces which, due to fine corrugations (cereals and grasses), or a waxy surface (e.g. peas), are difficult to wet. When water sprays hit these leaves they run or bounce off and wet the surface only in small spots. When broad leaved plants, such as wild mustard, are sprayed with water solutions the droplets tend to spread as a thin film or to remain as separate droplets which adhere to the leaf surfaces.

2. **Arrangement and Angle of Leaves:** Droplets of spray tend to roll off cereal leaves, which are narrow and upright. However, the wider horizontal leaves of weeds catch the spray which spreads over them and sticks. This is really another example of differential wetting.

3. **Location of Growing Points:** In cereals and most grasses the growing points are located in the crown of the plant which is protected by the leaves so that many sprays may injure the upper leaves, but not reach the growing points and kill the plant. Most broad leaved weeds, however, have exposed growing points at the tips of the shoots and in the leaf axils and are easily killed.

4. **Biochemical Cell Activity:** The cells of some plants tolerate certain chemicals better than others. Thus 2,4-D applied as a dust or in a non-toxic oil (so as to eliminate questions of differential wetting) will kill weeds such as wild radish and leave the cereals unharmed. Biochemical cell activity operates through the root system as well as the foliage of the plants and the spray may be applied to the soil itself in certain cases.



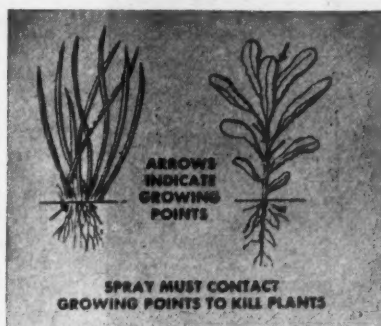
Differential wetting.

**5. Selective Spray Placement:** It is possible to kill small weeds in tall-growing crops such as maize and large onions, by applying a contact spray carefully so that it covers the weeds but touches only the lower stems of the crop plants. The stems of the crop plants are protected by older leaves.

**6. Differences in Growth Habits: Dormancy:** Some perennial crops, such as lucerne and asparagus, have a dormant period in winter when it may be safe to use a contact spray for the control of annual weeds. However, the same spray used when the crop is growing would probably injure it severely. This method has not been tested sufficiently in New South Wales for recommendations on lucerne to be made.

**Root Systems:** At times contact sprays may be used to kill annual weeds while deep-rooted crops are less likely to be damaged by spray material absorbed through the roots.

**7. Pre-emergence Weed Control:** To prevent the establishment of weeds in a crop a herbicide may be applied to prepared soil either shortly before planting (pre-planting treatment) or usually after planting, but prior to emergence of the crop (pre-emergence treatment). Pre-emergence treatment is most useful where the seed is fairly large and is planted at a depth of one inch or more. The treatment may be contact, in which case those weeds which have germinated are killed, but the effect of the herbicide soon disappears. Alternatively, the herbicide may have a residual effect, in which case it continues to destroy emerging seedlings for some time, but the crop plant may not be affected at germination, due to its relatively deep rooted system or to a tolerance to the chemical used. Pre-



Location of growing points.

emergence treatment appears to have an important future, but quite a deal of research must be carried out first.

It is important to remember that, with possibly one exception, selectivity is only relative and application of the selective herbicide at the wrong stage of growth or at an excessive rate of application or under the wrong conditions may be fatal to the crop as well as to the weed. The one exception is the use of certain kerosene fractions for the control of weeds in young carrots which appear to be tolerant to extremely high rates of application. Selectivity may be interfered with by the use of wetting agents, by spraying while the crop is wet with dew, excessive spray pressures and use of too low a volume of application in certain crops by using too much chemical or by using a type of formulation not suited to the problem in hand.



Arrangement and angle of leaves.

## INORGANIC WEEDKILLERS.

### Arsenic Compounds.

Arsenic has been used as a plant poison for many years, and in this country outstanding examples of its use on a large scale are the control of weeds along railway lines (where fenced), the destruction of prickly pear species and the killing of green timber of Eucalyptus species.

The arsenical compounds in general are regarded as translocated poisons, i.e., they enter the plant per medium of the foliage and are carried to the root system by the sap stream. Therefore it is necessary to spray the recommended solution of this chemical on the foliage, giving uniform light cover. They are general herbicides, but at low concentrations may be used selectively. The common lawn weed Jo-Jo (*Soliva sessilis*) is extremely sensitive to arsenic sprays.

**The Poison Hazard:** The hazards when using arsenic are, of course, the liability of stock being poisoned by feeding on the treated material, the danger to operators of irritation of the skin and arsenic absorption, and also from the careless handling of containers after use.

Stock should be kept off sprayed areas until the leaves have withered and become unpalatable; and operators can use gloves, cover the face with petroleum jelly and the hands with a thick grease, such as axle grease or other protective cream. When mixing, the operators should avoid any arsenic dust or fumes. Containers or tins should, when empty, be thoroughly washed out and immediately destroyed by cutting a hole in the bottom to prevent anyone accidentally using them subsequently.

### Arsenite of Soda.

Arsenite of soda is the form in which the poison is commonly used. There are numerous proprietary arsenical mixtures on the market which are quite effective for weed control work. The majority of these mixtures contain from 4 to 7 lb. of arsenious oxide per gallon, present as arsenite of soda. A wetting agent is invariably incorporated.



Those who wish to make up the spray themselves will find the following formula useful:

White arsenic, 1 lb.

Washing soda, 1 lb., or caustic soda  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb.

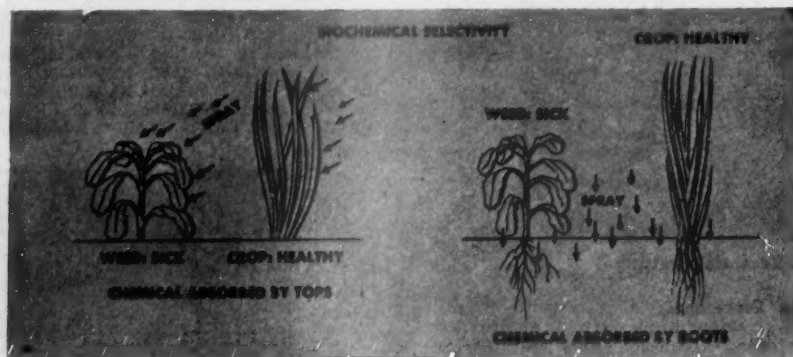
Water, 4 gallons.

The soda is first dissolved in a convenient amount of water, using heat to hasten the process, then slowly add the arsenic (which has previously been made into thin

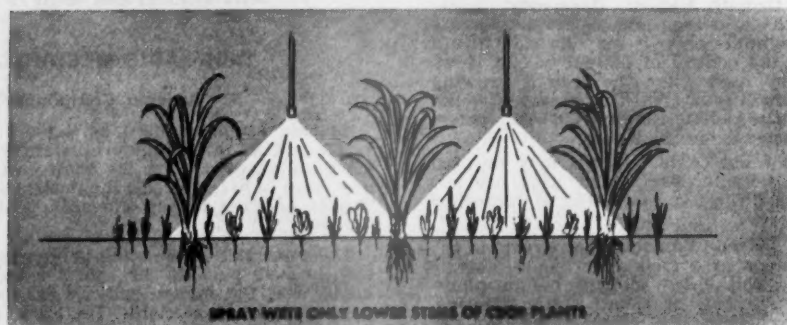
paste), stirring all the time, and place on a strong fire. After it has come to the boil, allow it to remain boiling for at least half an hour. Avoid fumes when boiling. The remainder of water is added to make the required bulk.

#### Arsenic Pentoxide.

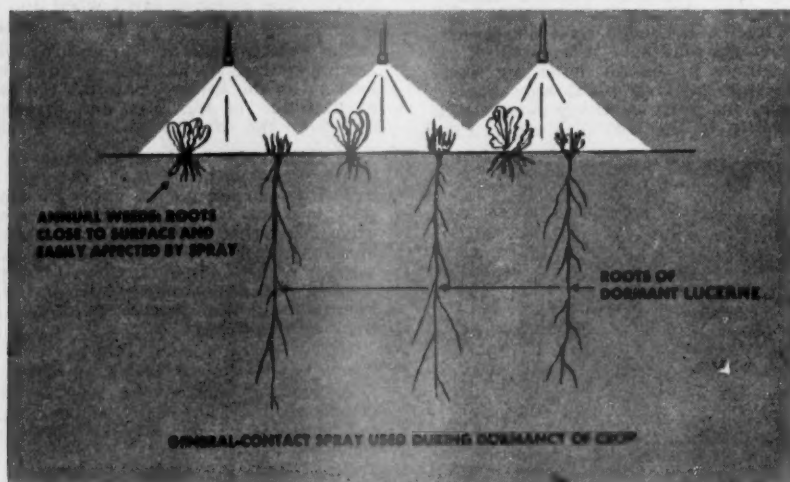
This compound acts in the same manner as arsenite of soda, but is much faster in its entry to the leaf



Biochemical cell activity.



Selective spray placement.



Differences in growth habits—Dormancy.



## GUIDE TO NEW PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES

Our aim in presenting these references is to give a summary in regard to each product, rather than all the information available in the manufacturers' literature. Their mention in these columns does not imply editorial recommendation. Prices are no longer quoted because of frequent fluctuations.

### MIXED PERTUSSIS AND DIPHTHERIA ANTIGEN

Supplier: Commonwealth Serum Laboratories, Parkville, Vic.  
Composition: Mixed Pertussis and Diphtheria Antigen contains purified diphtheria toxoid. The pertussis (phase 1) component is an improved type of vaccine. Any reactions to the vaccine are usually extremely mild. Simultaneous immunisation against Whooping Cough and Diphtheria.  
Indications: Three injections of 1 c.c.  
Dosage: 1 c.c. and 5 c.c. ampoules.  
Pack:

### TALECID

Supplier: Schering, A. G., Berlin.  
Composition: N-acetyl-N<sup>4</sup> phthalylsulfanilamide.  
Indications: In enteric infections.  
Dosage: In acute enteritis and bacillary dysentery: 6 tablets three times daily for 5 days.  
Pack: In pre- and post-operative gastro-intestinal surgery: 4 tablets three times daily.  
In ulcerative colitis: 4-6 tablets three times a day.  
In typhoid fever: 2-3 tablets every three hours.  
For children weighing less than 40 kg. it is advised to administer 0.2 g. per kg. daily, in divided doses. The tablets are dissolved in a little fluid and consumed as a draught.  
Tablets (0.5 gm.), bottles of 20, 100 and 500.

P.B.A. Item 125A

### COVITOL CREAM (D.H.A.)

Supplier: Elliotts & Australian Drug Pty. Ltd., Sydney.  
Composition: Cream containing cod liver oil 22 per cent. with zinc oxide 35 per cent., etc., in a bland base.  
Indications: Wounds, skin-chafing, burns, chilblains, etc.  
Pack: Tubes of 2 oz. Pots of 4 oz. and 1 lb.

### PANTOTHENIC ACID (Roche)

Supplier: Roche Products Ltd.  
Composition: Calcium pantothenate.  
Indications: Bronchitis, liver disorders, especially infective hepatitis, and lupus erythematosus; in alopecia and other disorders of the scalp and hair.  
Dosage: Therapeutic dose is from 50 mg. to 200 mg. daily.  
Pack: Tablets (25 mg.), bottles of 100.

### SUCRETS

Supplier: Sharp & Dohme Ltd., Sydney.  
Composition: Troches of hexylresorcinol 1:1000 (approx. 2.4 mg.) in base of sugar and glucose.  
Indications: Inflammatory conditions of mouth and throat.  
Dosage: Dissolve a troche in the mouth as often as necessary.  
Pack: Boxes of 24.

### BACITRACIN OPHTHALMIC OINTMENT

Supplier: Andrew's Laboratories, Sydney.  
Composition: Contains 1,000 units of Bacitracin per gramme, with 4 per cent. procaine hydrochloride in a non-aqueous petrolatum base.  
Indications: Conjunctivitis, corneal ulcer, etc. Prophylactically after removal of foreign body.  
Pack: Tubes of 1/2 oz.

### ADEXOCAL

Supplier: Glaxo Laboratories (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.  
Composition: Tablets containing Vitamin A 6,000 units, Vitamin D 1,000 units and calcium phosphate 300 mg.  
Indications: During pregnancy and lactation, etc.  
Dosage: Adults: Three tablets daily.  
Children: One tablet daily.  
Pack: Tablets (s.c.), bottles of 50 and 1,000.

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Sulpha Drugs  
Chilblain Tabs.  
Cough Lozenges  
Formalin Throat  
Iodised Throat  
Penicillin Lozenges  
Vitamin Compounds  
Bronchitis Mixture  
Nasal Drops

### Chilblain Tablets.

(Note superior formula.)  
Calcium Lactate Gr. 5.  
Nicotinic Acid 10 mgm.  
Vitamin K 5 mgm.

Representatives in All States:  
Queensland: S. H. Stewart, Hamilton Street, Brighton, Sandgate, Brisbane.  
Tasmania: H. T. Grounds, 4 Victoria Street, Hobart.  
Victoria: The John Kiddell Co., temporary address, 458 Beach Road, Beaumaris, S.10.  
South Australia: Arthur L. Searcy, 314 Churchill Buildings, Gawler Place, Adelaide.  
Western Australia: Geoff. Martin & Son, 64 Pier Street, Perth.

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## GUIDE TO NEW PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES (Continued)

### ETHINYL OESTRADIOL (Hamilton)

Supplier: The Hamilton Laboratories Ltd., Adelaide.  
 Composition: Ethinyl oestradiol-an orally active oestrogen, a derivative of the natural oestradiol.  
 Indications: Suppression of lactation, hypo-ovarianism, prostatic carcinoma, etc.  
 Dosage: One to three tablets daily.  
 Pack: Tablets of 0.01 mg. and 0.05 mg., bottles of 20 and 100.

### OBLIVON

Supplier: British Schering Ltd.  
 Composition: Capsules containing 250 mg. 3-methyl-pentyne-ol-3.  
 Indications: Where quick induction of sleep is required.  
 Dosage: Two 250 mg. capsules with a glass of milk or water will be found effective within 15 to 30 minutes after administration in the majority of cases.  
 Pack: When the patient has been taking barbiturates for a considerable time, three 250 mg. capsules may be necessary.  
 Pack: Bottles of 25 and 100 capsules.

### CALIGESIC

Supplier: Sharp & Dohme Ltd., Sydney.  
 Composition: Ointment (greaseless) of calamine prepared 8 per cent., benzocaine 3 per cent., hexylated m-cresol 0.05 per cent.  
 Indications: Skin inflammations such as insect bites, summer rash, pruritus ani, pruritus scroti, etc.  
 Directions: Apply locally to the affected parts.  
 Pack: Tubes of 1 oz. and 1½ oz.

### THOREXIN

Supplier: Grosvenor Laboratories Pty. Ltd., Sydney.  
 Composition: Tablets containing thyrothricin 1 mg., ethyl aminobenzoate 6.25 mg. and chlorophyll.  
 Indications: Mouth and throat affections.  
 Dosage: One tablet dissolved in the mouth every three hours.  
 Pack: Polystyrene vials containing 15 slotted tablets.

### TERCIN

Supplier: The British Drug Houses Ltd., London.  
 Composition: Tablets containing aspirin 5 gr., phenacetin 3 gr., and butobarbitone ½ gr.  
 Indications: For relief of pain.  
 Dosage: One or two tablets as required. A total dose of 8 tablets daily should generally not be exceeded.  
 Pack: Bottles of 200 and 1000 tablets.  
 Notes: Tercin is not yet available on the Australian market.

### ANDRAZIDE

Supplier: Andrew's Laboratories, Sydney.  
 Composition: Isonicotinic acid hydrazide.  
 Indications: Pulmonary tuberculosis; extra-pulmonary tuberculosis, etc.  
 Dosage: Average dose recommended is 30 to 50 mg. a day for every 10 kilos of body weight, i.e., 4-8 tablets daily at intervals. Administration can be continued for several months.  
 Pack: Tablets (50 mg.), bottles of 50 and 500.

### "CETAVLEX" Cream

Supplier: Imperial Chemical (Pharmaceuticals) Limited.  
 Composition: Cream containing 0.5 per cent. "Cetavlon" (Cetrimide B.P.) in a water-miscible base.  
 Indications: Skin infections, etc.  
 Pack: Tubes of 50 grammes.

### ACETOCID EYE OINTMENT

Supplier: British Schering Ltd., London.  
 Composition: Sulphacetamide Sodium B.P. 10 per cent. in a neutral base.  
 Indications: Conjunctivitis, blepharitis, trachoma, corneal ulceration, corneal injuries, ophthalmia neonatorum.  
 Pack: Tubes of 4 gm. (60 gr.).

A Special Card Service dealing with Prescription Proprietarys is now available.  
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## WHITE COATS

LADIES' UNIFORM in Pre-Shrunk Cesarine. Shank Buttons. S.S.W. to W. and O.S.



THIS STYLE  
 in British Pre-Shrunk Drill.

Available for immediate delivery.

Sizes 3 to 8.

## CROWN WHITE COATS

Showrooms:

MELBOURNE: VIC. BROOKSHAW, Howey Court, 234 Collins St. MU 5229.

ADELAIDE: K. MACKENZIE, 99 Gouger Street. Phone: Cent. 1737.

HOBART: H. GROUNDS, 4 Victoria Street. Hobart 3511.

BRISBANE: L. W. D. ROCHAIX & CO., 90-92 Eagle Street. BO 677.

structure, and appears to have superior penetrating ability. This rapid rate of poison entry leads to a very fast rate of leaf decomposition, and slightly reduces the danger period for stock poisoning.

Arsenic pentoxide can be used over a wider range of climatic conditions, and is more suitable in the drier districts. It is purchased in a granular form, ready for mixing with cold water.

The common mixture is 3 lb. to 5 gallons of water; this may be increased to 1 lb. to 1 gallon of water in the case of hardy perennials and reduced to 1 lb. to 3 gallons of water for annuals and large-leaved shallow-rooted weeds. For very succulent annuals the concentration can be reduced to as low as 1 lb. to 20 gallons of water.

The degree to which soil sterility may result varies greatly with the class of soil. Where the iron content is fairly high, as in many red soils, the arsenic becomes "fixed" rapidly and has little further effect on plant life.

#### **Sodium Chlorate.**

Sodium chlorate is a white crystalline salt that is readily soluble in cold water, and can be applied either in solution in the form of a foliage spray or dry as a soil steriliser. While good results are generally obtained with foliage spraying in the cool or coastal districts, results are often disappointing in the dry western agricultural areas and there it is preferable to use sodium chlorate as a soil steriliser rather than as a foliage spray.

Atlacide is a proprietary mixture of sodium chlorate from which the fire risk has largely been eliminated by the addition of calcium chloride, but the application should be increased by about 50 per cent.

Sodium chlorate is a general weedkiller, although it has some selective uses. An application of 100 lb. per acre as a spray has killed paspalum, while couch grass has recovered. Chlorates act as contact poisons at higher strengths, but are translocated if properly applied and they may also be absorbed from the soil, killing both roots and tops.

**Foliage Spraying:** The effective strength of the solution will vary with different weeds and their stage of growth. Many annual weeds, especially those with a large leaf surface, can be destroyed with a very weak solution, even as low as  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. to 10 gallons for seedlings. In the case of deep-rooted weeds (biennial and perennial) a strong solution is preferable, using approximately 1 lb. to 1 gallon of water.

For the destruction of deep-rooting weeds it is generally necessary to make two or more sprayings, any new growth made by the plants being sprayed about six to eight weeks after the first spraying. The action of sodium chlorate is very slow. The sprayed areas should be left undisturbed for a period of three months after spraying.

**Time of Spraying:** The best time for spraying weeds is, as a rule, when they are making good growth (such as just before the flower stage) or when the amount of leaf surface is greatest. At this stage the soil moisture is generally high, a factor essential for good results with chlorate.

In the case of weeds with a large amount of old woody growth it is preferable to slash down the old topgrowth and spray the young regrowth. The action of sodium chlorate is more rapid when the air is moist. Rain following a short time after spraying does not hinder the action of the spray; in fact, in some instances the kill has been more complete when rain followed within a few hours of spraying. The chemical is not so effective on weeds which are continually in the shade, and the best results are obtained where spraying is done in direct sunlight.

**Soil Sterilisation:** The chemical can be used dry or in solution, and the soil should be saturated at the base of the plant. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. is required per square yard.

This sterilising effect on the soil is of a temporary nature, and the time will depend on the rainfall and

other soil factors. The chlorate is washed down into the soil and shallow-rooted clovers will grow the next season, while deep-rooted crops will not thrive until probably two years later, depending on the quantity applied.

**Danger of Stock Poisoning and Fire:** Sodium chlorate is poisonous to stock if taken in sufficient quantity, but with the relatively small quantity of chemical used for spraying, there is little danger of stock being harmed by eating the sprayed vegetation. Care should be taken that stock do not have access to unused spray, which they will readily drink.

Materials which burn easily, such as clothing, leather boots, woodwork, etc., are rendered more inflammable if sprinkled with a solution of sodium chlorate and when dry can be ignited by a spark or friction, thus constituting a fire menace. It is essential to mix the solution in the open, wear rubber boots which will not absorb the solution, and overalls that can be discarded quickly and washed. When spraying keep a supply of water on hand in case of emergency.

#### **Coarse Salt.**

Coarse salt is probably one of the oldest weedkillers, but it is not now in general use except for special purposes. It can be used for the destruction of weeds on paths. When applied at 5 lb. to the square yard it will cause soil sterilisation. It has the disadvantage over other methods of soil sterilisation of creating a crumbly surface to the treated soil. Coarse salt also has selective weed-killing properties when used on beets, which are relatively tolerant. The fact that soils may be adversely affected by an accumulation of salt limits its use.

#### **Borax.**

Although borax is not at present used as a herbicide in New South Wales it is anticipated that grades suitable for weed-killing purposes will shortly become available. It may be used for killing vegetation on non-agricultural lands, especially in areas where it is desired to avoid the fire hazards of chlorates and the poisonous properties of arsenicals. The soil is unsuitable for plant growth for from six months to several years, depending on soil type, rainfall and amount applied. Although it is not regarded as being selective, grasses are more tolerant of borax than most other plants. Rates of application are fairly heavy, ranging from about 2 lb. to 9 lb. per 100 sq. ft., according to whether annuals or perennials are being treated. Mixtures of borax and sodium chlorate may also be used.

#### **Sulphuric Acid.**

This is a contact selective weedkiller which is now used to a very limited extent for control of annual weeds in onions. Its use has been greatly restricted on account of its corrosive action on spray equipment and danger to operators if not handled carefully. Never pour water into concentrated acid. It has been used at strengths of 2 per cent. to 10 per cent. by volume at from 100 to 150 gallons per acre.

#### **Ammonium Sulphamate.**

This material, which is sold under the trade name of Ammate, is a yellowish, granular water-soluble compound. It kills all types of scrub and annual weeds and is not toxic to man or animals. It is not effective on perennials and it has no lasting effect on the soil. For killing trees it is applied neat or as a strong solution to the surface of the freshly cut stumps.

#### **Potassium Cyanate.**

This is a new selective herbicide being used in America for the control of weeds in onions and lawns. Potassium cyanate is not yet available in Australia.

(To be continued in a later issue.)

# Pharmacy in Australia

Extracts from an address given by Mr. W. R. Cutler, President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand, to an audience of pharmaceutical chemists in Paris during his recent world tour. We are indebted to "Le Moniteur Des Pharmacies et Des Laboratoires" for the following notes.

## Some Generalities.

Before considering the pharmaceutical situation in Australia, it is advisable to cite some generalities about the country.

(1) Australia is an entirely agricultural and grazing country. Its principal resources are cereals, sheep, wool, frozen meat (rabbits), gold and fruit.

Australia was visited for the first time by Europeans in 1606 (at this time it was called New Holland). The area of 7,740,165 km. represents a territory 40 times bigger than France and 32 times bigger than the United Kingdom. The population in 1947 of 7,579,358 inhabitants has increased to 8,648,000 in June, 1952, being an increase of 1,068,642 inhabitants in five years.

The 6846 doctors and 9367 chemists (1947 census) are divided among the eight political divisions as follows:—

	Doctors.	Chemists.
New South Wales . . . . .	2748	3741
Victoria . . . . .	1966	2737
Queensland . . . . .	836	1273
South Australia . . . . .	594	772
Western Australia . . . . .	511	563
Northern Territory . . . . .	2	2
Aust. Commonwealth Territories . . . . .	10	15
Total . . . . .	6846	9367

## The Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand.

The President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand, Mr. W. R. Cutler, was delegated by the Association to represent his country at the centenary of the American Pharmaceutical Association in August, 1952. Profiting by his travelling, he wished to visit Europe. He arrived in France, in Paris, in September, where he was honoured by the National Order of Pharmacists (l'Ordre National des Pharmaciens) on September 22.

In spite of the great distance which separates the two countries, it is found, however, that the great lines of French and Australian pharmacy resemble one another, and that the numerous difficulties to be overcome daily are similar.

Mr. Cutler is desirous of giving us some indications of the practice of pharmacy in Australia, which he has called "Pharmacy in Australia."

In the first place, he points out that when immigrants settle in a new country, generally those who have come from an old country have brought with them certain ancient customs and traditions which they conserve for a certain time. But little by little these customs give way to new ideas which are better adapted to the needs of the country. According to this rule of world evolution, pharmacy has not escaped.

In Australia this evolution developed rapidly, owing to the fact that the country is divided into six States, and each possesses a central pharmaceutical autonomy, but often different in character one from the other, although the fundamental principles are still the same.

The first Pharmaceutical Society was founded in Victoria in 1857, and the second in New South Wales in 1876, both of them having for aim—

- Familiarisation of pharmaceutical education.
- Formation and application of a code of ethics for the profession.

These pharmaceutical societies were founded on the same principles as the "Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain." The examination for the diploma of a pharmacist was similar in the six States. Shortly afterwards Pharmacy Boards were formed in order to apply certain pharmaceutical laws and in particular for legislation on the sale of poisonous substances.

In 1907, in Adelaide, the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand was founded, and in 1928 the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild. As in European countries, certain other organisations were founded afterwards, namely—

In order to protect the chemist and his business, an assurance organisation called "Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd." was created in 1912. As the number of prescriptions to be made up in the pharmacies grew, the working week became shorter and shorter, the risk of making errors naturally became greater. The chemists realised that it was a necessity to be a member of an organisation like the Pharmaceutical Defence. Apart from all practical help, this organisation gives the pharmacists moral assistance, knowing that behind them they have someone with power who will act for the defence of their interests and rights. If, for example, an error is made in a pharmacy, the Pharmaceutical Defence arranges the legal services in order that a lawsuit might be avoided and an amicable arrangement made between the two parties. The annual subscription of the chemist has increased little, being 2400 francs plus 725 francs for each employee.

Pharmacy in Australia is under the control of seven laws:—The pharmaceutical law, the law of poisonous substances, the law of dietetic products and drugs, the law of sale and distribution of narcotics, the law of weekly closing, the law of venereal diseases, the industrial law.

## The Friendship of Doctors and Chemists.

The relations between doctors and chemists are very cordial whether on social or professional terms.

These two work together in complete harmony, realising full accord; accord inspired by the establishment of medico-pharmaceutical liaison committees.

## "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy."

The "Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" is the official organ published monthly. In this well-printed Journal are found the most diverse articles—scientific, students' section, pharmaceutical happenings and monthly reports from the six States of Australia.

## The Military Pharmacist.

Concerning the situation of the pharmacist in the armed forces, Australia has outstripped the Mother Country—Great Britain.

In fact, since 1949 the pharmacist has been graded as an officer right from the time of his enrolment in the army. Negotiations are in progress with the navy to achieve the same results.

## Conclusion.

Mr. Cutler ended his address in the following terms:—"Perhaps you will ask yourselves, What sort of a person is the Australian pharmacist? Well, he resembles you and me, with the good and bad qualities of us both. He hates to be ordered, he fights bureaucracy to the death, but he will respond to reason and one is able to direct him. When things are bad he complains, and when things are good he has no time to receive the commercial travellers (?). But, above all, he is an individualist. Ninety-seven per cent. of the chemists in Australia own their own businesses. This is the Australian point of view, and we are going to try to fight with all our strength all opposition tending to lead pharmacy on any other path than this.

"The traditions of our ancestors—'the family chemist'—are still the axiom in our country. They are more and more enrooted in the fields and villages, where the chemists have held the same family accounts for 80 years. After numerous years of work he appreciates, as you and I do, the advantages and the solace that a few hours of rest away from his business can give him.



# Readers' Views

To the Editor.

*These columns are open for the free discussion of any matter of general interest to Pharmacists. Letters under a nom de plume may be published; but each correspondent must furnish his name and address as an evidence of good faith. It must be distinctly understood that the opinions expressed by our correspondents are not necessarily endorsed editorially.*

## P.M.S. PRICES

The Editor.

Sir,—The following prescription was received in this pharmacy to be dispensed under the P.M.S.:—

R/

Sod. Phenobarb. . . . . grs. 1/5  
Pot. Brom. . . . . grs. x  
Ephedrine . . . . . grs. 1/4  
Codein . . . . . grs. 1/3  
Mist. Ammon. & Seneg. . . . . ad 3iv  
Ft. Mist. Mitte 16 oz. (Spec. supply).  
(Repeat twice.)

Priced according to the Guild list, this works out at £1/8/1 per bottle.

Priced according to the P.M.S. list it comes to £-/8/8.

Comment is not needed from me.

Yours, etc.,

S. T. DAWSON.

Marrickville, N.S.W., April 23, 1953.

(The reply to this matter will be found in the reports given at mass meetings to members by the Federal President of the Guild.—Ed.)

## THE FLOOD OF PROPRIETARIES

Sir,—A perusal of some of the recent "literature" with which pharmacists are deluged per mail leaves me wondering where pharmacy is heading. The present-day apprentice is put through a gruelling course at the Pharmacy College—and for what purpose?

What they will need in the pharmacy is the ability to read scrips for so-called "Prescription Proprietaries" with names like nonsense syllables and just as enlightening; to count tablets rapidly and correctly; to wield a razor blade efficiently to remove maker's label from a bottle, and to put the pharmacy's own label on same. The said "Prescription Proprietary" will be the newest line of the firm whose "detailer" was the last in the district.

These marvellous productions are multiplying like bacteria, and one questions how much longer pharmacists (and wholesalers too) will be willing or able to stand the loss involved by makers continually superseding their own lines, and duplicating someone else's, while new firms appear, hastening to cash in with still more lines and more duplication—and most of what went before joins the dead stock. The broken quantities add to the pharmacist's loss—we are left with 75 out of 100 tablets, or 13 oz. out of a 16-oz. bottle. We got them unwillingly, knowing this would happen, and we are hopelessly out of pocket on the transaction. We cannot use them for counter prescribing, nor have a bargain sale to reduce our losses. This dead stock must total many thousands of pounds in the pharmacies of each State. The makers are the only ones who never lose—and what a profit they must make. They are able to reduce their prices to one-third or one-quarter, someone else puts up a similar line, or the Commonwealth Health Department takes their costly line off the P.B.

The antihistamines are an example of duplication—every maker is in this, for them, profitable field, and sooner or later every pharmacy gets a scrip for every one of them, usually for broken quantities. With their risky side effects, not yet half known, the populace would be better without any of them—90 per cent. of today's allergies are due to the patient's background and mental outlook. The latest idea in duplication is identical tablets, branded and plain. We are invited to stock both, the latter so that it can be prescribed without the patient being able to read the name on every tablet.

Many of these lines contain Specified Drugs, but a refusal to repeat a cancelled scrip, usually for someone you have never seen before, can create an electric atmosphere. That damnable drug Amphetamine and the also damnable but ubiquitous Phenobarbitone, singly or together, are a frequent cause of trouble. The present generation has not heard of burning the candle at both ends, or putting a danger signal out of action, which procedures are responsible, I am sure, for the "suddenly" which appears in every third death notice.

Another thing which warrants notice and action at once is the ever-increasing strength and danger of preparations which we are asked by their makers to stock, and with which the populace is to dose itself ad lib. A new one which we are to recommend (I suppose) advertises itself as "For Colds, Influenza, Bronchitis, Asthma, Hay Fever, FATIGUE and DEPRESSION." One testimonial on the "Directions and Information" leaflet states that the writer is now able to do all her own housework without fatigue by taking a remedy for the first five in the list—and possibly qualifying for "suddenly" in the near future.

In my opinion a preparation which contains Atropine Sulph. and Codein. Phos. is **not** safe for self-medication. Of course, they will be sold by chemists only—**ONLY** because the Poisons Acts still prevent Atropine and Codein from being sold by the grocer, delicatessen or chain store. Someone will be poisoning himself or someone else, and a number of people, probably including a chemist, will be giving evidence at an inquest.

And we must be pharmacists to hand these lines over the counter, but what are the qualifications of their makers, and where are they made? We receive "literature" with Order Forms for a gross or so of some new line which has been an enormous success in Patagonia or Timbuctoo, from a firm of whom we have never heard (optimists, aren't they?). In Victoria the address is usually Sydney, but I have heard that in N.S.W. the address is Melbourne or Perth. A little tour by some of our newspaper men might uncover some most interesting information on accommodation addresses, etc.

Also, the makers of some of the lines must think we are idiots if they think we will believe the rubbish they write in their circulars, etc. We aren't, and we don't.

My final comment concerns something we use, but do not sell—Prescription Books and their binding. Cloth is got up to look like leather and paper to look like cloth, while the price is that of first quality leather back and corners, with cloth boards. By the time 100 pages of the 500 are used the binding is going to pieces and the edges of the covers splitting to show their component layers of common cardboard. I do not knock my scrip books about, as those of former years prove, but the last book had to be professionally patched up when completed, and the present one is worse, and moreover a page of the index has come loose and could be lost. I have never had anything like this happen before. The makers of former years put their label inside the cover—they were proud of a good job. The present-day makers are afraid to put their names on their work—they know how poor it is.

Yours, etc.,

DORIS SMITH.

266 Barkly street, Footscray, W11, Victoria.

May 20, 1953.

# Legal

## NEW SOUTH WALES CHEMIST FINED FOR FAILURE TO KEEP DANGEROUS DRUGS LOCKED UP

John J. W. Glennan, pharmaceutical chemist, was fined a total of £10 at the Wyong Court of Petty Sessions on March 20 for failure to lock up Dangerous Drugs as required by the Police Offences (Drugs) Act, and for omitting to enter transactions in Dangerous Drugs in a Dangerous Drugs Register.

It was stated in Court that Detective-Sergeant Baker of the Drug Squad visited Glennan's pharmacy on February 12 when Glennan was absent. He had inspected the drug cupboard and found it to be unlocked and incapable of being locked. An examination of the Dangerous Drugs Register disclosed that it was in an unsatisfactory condition. Detective Baker found that the Register showed that 300 tablets of Heroin had been purchased and only 76 were disposed of. The balance in stock was only 170 tablets.

Other discrepancies were referred to.

Mr. A. A. Brown, for Glennan, stated that most of the Dangerous Drugs in the shop were kept in another cupboard which was properly locked. The cupboard which was mentioned by Sgt. Baker was an old one and in disrepair.

There was no suggestion that Mr. Glennan had been trafficking in drugs.

It was the first time in 15 years of business that Glennan had had a conviction, although detectives had visited the business premises previously.

## PROSECUTIONS BY VICTORIAN PHARMACY BOARD UNDER THE POISONS AND PHARMACY REGULATIONS

The Pharmacy Board of Victoria proceeded against Miss Veronica Whelan in the Richmond Court on April 17, 1953, on the charge of selling a poison, Lysol, without the container bearing the name and address of the seller, contrary to Section VIII of the Poisons Act. Evidence regarding the purchase was given by Mrs. L. Harding and Inspector Ahern of the Pharmacy Board. After hearing the evidence, the Magistrate, Mr. Morris, announced that the charge was regarded as proved and reserved to further question until the conclusion of the hearing of other informations.

The Court then proceeded to deal with a charge of selling Veganin tablets without the name and address of the seller being written on the container, and after hearing of the evidence the case was adjourned until April 24.

Mr. Forbes, for the defendant, tendered a packet of Veganin tablets purchased in a pharmacy. The container bore the name of the chemist, but not his address.

In reply to questions by Mr. Forbes, Inspector Ahern said that the chemist in question had never been prosecuted by the Pharmacy Board. He was at one time President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria.

Mr. Morris asked His Worship to dismiss the case which he, Mr. Morris, said was trivial.

Mr. W. O. Harris, for the Pharmacy Board, submitted that the charge should not be dismissed as being trivial. The provision in the Poisons Act was clear and unequivocal. To treat the information as trivial was tantamount to treating the Poisons Act itself as being trivial. The whole series of enactments, the Poisons Act and Regulations under it, were designed to control

as carefully as possible the sale and distribution of all substances which might prove harmful if they came into wrong hands.

The Magistrate, after hearing other argument, said the Bench found the charge proved, and reserved the question as to whether a conviction was to be recorded.

## Charges Under Pharmacy Regulations—Validity of Prescription Questioned.

The next charge dealt with was under the Pharmacy Regulations, it being alleged that the defendant dispensed a medicine, namely Benzocaine ointment, otherwise than in the terms set out in the prescription, contrary to Regulation 78 (1) of the Pharmacy Regulations 1930. Evidence was given by Mrs. Harding and Inspector Ahern, and after discussion on a number of points the case hearing was adjourned until May 1.

At the adjourned hearing Dr. Donald Buchanan gave formal evidence regarding the writing of a prescription for Benzocaine ointment. He admitted that it was a test prescription written for a fictitious person.

Mr. Forbes, for the defendant, suggested that prescribing for a fictitious person was prescribing in the hope of getting someone to break the law. He ascertained, therefore, that the document was in effect a fraud.

Bernard Verrell Heath, Public Analyst, gave evidence concerning the analysis of the ointment. Mr. Forbes, addressing the Bench, said that the document which had been presented was not a prescription at all. A prescription prescribed something for a person for a purpose, that was a medical purpose. This prescription was merely written out as a trap. It did not conform with the general and proper meaning of a prescription, and he contended that the prosecution should fail.

Mr. Harris submitted that the argument put forward by Mr. Forbes was not sound. A prescription was a direction by a medical practitioner as to how a medical compound should be made up, and it did not matter whether it was prescribed for some particular person or not. It was not so much an order that the patient should take the particular compound. Directions were added to a prescription as to the way in which the dose was to be taken by a patient, but that was something in addition. It normally went with a prescription, but was not inevitable. It did not excuse a chemist in any way in making up a medicine prescribed by a doctor to say there was no such patient as the name which appeared on the prescription. The writing referred to bore the name of Walters. It did not make any difference if there had been a Mr. Walters for whom the ointment was prescribed. Only 1.63 per cent. of Benzocaine was in the ointment. It had been just as badly dispensed as it would have been if there had been a real Mr. Walters. Mr. Morris said, "I agree that the moral responsibility of the chemist is the same, but I cannot say that this is a legal responsibility."

Mr. Morris announced that the decision was in favour of the defendant. In his opinion, before you could have a prescription, you must prescribe for someone for some matter that required treatment. There was another point which had not been taken. He did not think that he had had evidence that an analysis had been made and that the analysis was not in accordance with the prescription.

Mr. Harris: "That is apparent from examination of the evidence of Mr. Ahern and prescription itself. It had 1.63 per cent. of Benzocaine on analysis. The prescription called for Benzocaine 5 per cent."

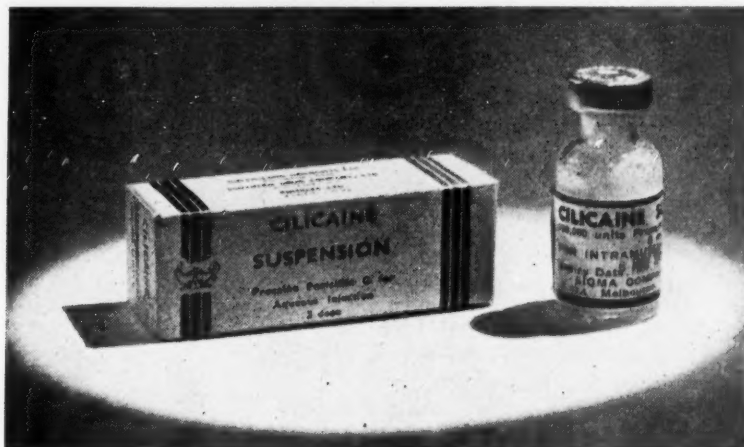
Evidence was then given in relation to a charge that the prescription for the ointment had not been initialled by the actual dispenser as required by Regulation 77 (h) and a third charge of dispensing medicine (Heroin linctus) not in accordance with the prescription. A further charge of having sold Methylated Spirits without labelling the container as required by the Poisons Regulations with the name and address of the seller was also proceeded with. A fourth charge was that on January 21, 1953, the defendant did supply a Specified drug, namely Q.E.S. which contained ergot, other-



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wise than upon the written prescription of a medical practitioner or registered veterinary surgeon, contrary to Regulation 31 of the Dangerous Drugs Regulations 1930.

On the charge of selling Q.E.S. without a prescription, a fine of £25 was imposed; for the sale of Methylated Spirits and Veganin tablets not labelled in accordance with the Regulations, fines of £5 were imposed; and on the charge of not labelling the container or Lysol with name and address of the seller as required by the Poisons Regulations, a fine of £2.

The four cases involving the use of a prescription written for a fictitious person were dismissed.

The Pharmacy Board has given notice that it will seek a review of these decisions in the Supreme Court.

## VICTORIAN DANGEROUS DRUGS REGULATIONS

### Penalties Reduced.

In the Hawthorn Court of General Sessions, before Judge Book, on March 19, Norman Walter Cook, pharmaceutical chemist, of Glenferrie, appealed against convictions of £50 on each of three charges under the Dangerous Drugs Regulations.

The charges related to failure to lock up all stocks of Dangerous Drugs; supplying a Dangerous Drug without a prescription, and failure to record all transactions in the Dangerous Drugs Register.

All three convictions were confirmed, as was the penalty on the charge of failure to lock up Dangerous Drugs. On the other two charges, penalties were reduced from £50 to £10.

Judge Book refused to make any order for costs.

## PRIVILEGED SHOPPING

In these days of high living costs, with wages and prices each trying to overtake the other on a seemingly endless spiral, it is not surprising that the spotlight of publicity sometimes turns on those schemes whereby certain sections of the community are able to purchase various articles at less than the usual retail price. It has been said that hundreds of organisations have privilege agreements with firms throughout the country and that the members of such associations are able to buy practically anything from fur coats to furniture and perambulators to television sets at a discount, which, in some cases, may be as high as 20 per cent. If such arrangements are as prevalent as they are said to be, then it would appear that they provide the retailer concerned with an economically sound business proposition. A large volume of sales enables him to buy at quantity rates, and this, with increased turnover, probably guarantees him a profit margin at least comparable with that yielded by the more usual form of business transaction. A restricted form of privilege buying, by way of professional discount, is, of course, usually applied by the retail pharmacist in his dealings with the medical and closely allied professions, but this is in no way comparable with the scale on which the discount schemes appear to operate in other spheres of commerce. With such a large proportion of the population employed in the nationalised industries and other huge undertakings it is easy to envisage the day when most of the community will carry a membership card of some sort on their shopping expeditions and when the only persons to whom the advantages of privilege buying are not extended are the shopkeepers themselves. Such a situation, whatever else it might do, would certainly solve the problems of the Monopolies Commission.—"The Pharmaceutical Journal."

# Overseas News

## GREAT BRITAIN

London, May 11, 1953.

### Pharmacy Bill Passed.

The Pharmacy Bill has received its third reading in the House of Commons, and already has been read twice in the Lords. It is almost unique insofar as it has not been amended at all by the Commons. In last month's Newsletter the discussion on the Committee stage was summarised and the arguments given against the defeated amendment which proposed legislation over the personal registration fee. Miss Hornsby-Smith, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, spoke at the third reading, when she said that the Bill was appropriately confined to matters relating to domestic organisation and rightly limited its terms to its effect on individual pharmacists as professional men and did not seek to enter into the affairs of limited companies, or, indeed, to the registration of premises. Mr. H. N. Linstead, Secretary of the Society, said it was a small Bill when seen against the national background, but an extremely important Bill against the background of the Pharmaceutical Society. An important point had been raised in Committee — the extent to which corporate bodies should have a voice in the affairs of the Society. He was very glad that the Committee had decided that it would be wise as far as possible to keep the Society what it was intended to be — namely, a professional society of individual practitioners — and not a mixed organisation partly representing corporate bodies and partly representing individuals. He wanted to make it clear, however, that there was no fundamental difference between the corporate bodies and the individual pharmacists. Some of the discussion in Committee might perhaps have led people to assume that there was a bitter feud. That was far from being the case. Nevertheless, there was a great deal to be said for keeping a professional body restricted to its professional members. The Bill was linked with the draft of a new charter, which was at present before Her Majesty for consideration, said Mr. Linstead, in conclusion. It might be valuable to have it on record that it was the hope of the Society that the date of the coming into force of the Bill and the date of the granting of the new Charter would be co-ordinated, so that there would be no gap in time between the old provisions and the new provisions. The whole proceedings occupied less than 20 minutes in the Commons.

### Unopposed Passage in Lords.

The Bill was given an unopposed second reading in the House of Lords on May 5. Lord Amulree, in moving the second reading, said that it was quite uncontroversial. He felt it had the support of the Government, he knew that members of the Opposition viewed it favourably and it had the support of the Pharmaceutical Society. There was no need for him, he continued, to remind the House of the work of chemists in the country in general, nor of the responsibility which they now had with the arrival of more complicated drugs. It gave him, as a member of a profession which worked closely with the chemists, great pleasure to be moving the second reading. The purpose of the Bill was to tidy up the law relating to pharmacy, which was complicated and full of rather difficult technicalities. After he had given an outline of the history of the Society, Lord Amulree explained the Bill clause by clause, and concluded by saying that it had been exhaustively examined by members of the profession and it met with their entire approval.

Lord Haden-Guest supported the Bill. It was, he said, one of the examples current at the present time of the raising of a particular body of people from one status to another. The Bill improved the status of those who were chemists and who were professionally qualified in that respect. The object of the Bill, of course, was also to remove the anomalies and anachronisms in the Pharmacy Acts, and to prepare for the consolidation of the whole series of Acts which had gone before. It was to disentangle the constitution of the Pharmaceutical Society from its statutory duties. The effect of the Bill would be to put the statutory duties into the Act and the constitution into a new Charter. The Charter was now before the Privy Council, and it was hoped to synchronise the appointed day under the Act and the granting of the new Charter.

He also said that he must draw the attention of the House to the fact that it was not only in chemists' shops, nor with the assistance of qualified people, that drugs could be sold. A very large quantity of drugs were sold at grocers' and other shops. It was true that they were only drugs which were more or less harmless — aspirin and things of that kind — but a large proportion of drugs were, in fact, obtainable in shops in which there was no chemist in attendance. The Bill had the support of the Ministry of Health and of the Privy Council. It was a step towards further strengthening the Pharmaceutical Society, and so raising the whole profession, as a professional body. It was much to be hoped that the Statute Law Revision Committee would get to work on a consolidation of the Pharmacy Acts.

Viscount Samuel said that, as one who was responsible for the passing of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, which was then a highly controversial measure, he entirely concurred in the Amendment of that Act which was to be effected by the present Bill.

#### **The Society's Finances.**

The annual accounts of the Society show that there was a surplus of £15,470 last year, compared with a deficit of £31,100 in 1951. This apparent improvement, however, was brought about only by the large sales of the new edition of the Extra Pharmacopoeia, published towards the end of 1952. In fact, out of a total income of £263,551, no less than £104,264 came from the sale of publications other than Pharmaceutical Journal. Expenses are rising, and there was a decrease in some forms of income, e.g., examination fees fell by £3900. It seems apparent that when the Pharmacy Bill becomes law, a rise in the personal retention fee is inevitable.

The Annual Report in its paragraph on International Relations recalls:—

The Council were pleased to welcome two representatives of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand, Mr. J. J. Delahunty and Mr. R. S. F. Greig, of Brisbane, and their wives, as guests of the Society at the British Pharmaceutical Conference at Nottingham. Later in the year the President of the Association, Mr. W. R. Cutler, of Sydney, also visited this country and was welcomed by the Society's officers.

#### **Mounting Cost of Service.**

The recently published accounts for the year ended March 31, 1952, show that the pharmaceutical service cost £45,392,936, compared with £34,810,197 in the previous year. Pharmacists received £43,624,365, an increase of £10 million, the remainder being paid to dispensing doctors. It is estimated that the total includes about £12,530,000 for professional remuneration by way of dispensing fees, about £1,170,000 for the allowance for containers, about £22,970,000 for the reimbursement of the cost of drugs and appliances, and about £6,950,000 for the allowance for overhead expenses and profit. These amounts include retrospective payments made to pharmacists in respect of the previous year for dis-

pensing fees (about £670,000) and for the allowance for overhead expenses and profit (about £1,220,000).

#### **National Formulary Criticised.**

The National Formulary has been criticised by both the British Medical Association and a number of individual doctors. It has been suggested to the B.M.A. that in a special edition for use by prescribers the preparations be listed in pharmacological classifications, instead of under the various sections such as mixtures and injections as at present. Another suggestion from one local medical committee was that prices of preparations be included in the Formulary, but the National Formulary Committee had decided against this on the ground that there should be no suggestion that the practitioner's choice of appropriate preparations should be guided by considerations of cost.

After a long discussion the General Medical Services Committee of the B.M.A. decided against pharmacological classification or classification under diseases, one member voicing strong objections to the introduction of any new system which would suggest that a particular drug was good for such and such a condition. The Committee wanted the classification retained as in the present edition. Discussion also took place on a proposal to use English titles and Latin translations, but attention was drawn to the international repercussions of such an alteration; any proposal of this kind ought to be considered by an international pharmacopoeial body.

One practitioner in a letter to the British Medical Journal declares that the whole book needs completely re-editing, and, above all, the simplification of names. This measure alone would save thousands of pounds. "Who on earth could be expected to write out inj. procain. benzylpenicil. confirm B.P.C., or ung. iod. denig. c. methyl. salicyl B.P.C. (which are the recognised abbreviations of preparations) when there are well-known proprietary equivalents of a few letters?"

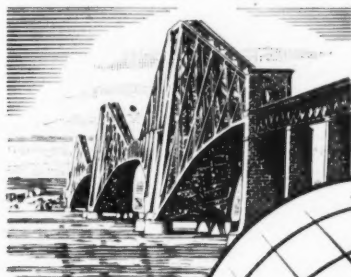
It is understood revision is taking place just now. Many of the names suggested have not "caught on," in particular Roxenol, the official B.P. synonym for Liquor Chloroxylenolis, often eludes practitioner and pharmacist alike, and one metropolitan chemist bought it specially from a source 300 miles away when prescribed, as this was the only manufacturer who listed it under the synonym!

#### **Loss to Retailers.**

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has forced retailers, including pharmacists, to shoulder a heavy burden by reducing practically all rates of Purchase Tax by 25 per cent. in his Budget. This tax, which was introduced as a war-time measure to curtail spending power, is levied on most goods, except food and books, and percentage is levied at varying rates on wholesale value. Cosmetics formerly were taxed at 100 per cent., cameras and films at 66½ per cent., and proprietary medicines at 33½ per cent.; accordingly the new rates are 75 per cent., 50 per cent. and 25 per cent., and holders had to write down their stock values by this amount. The loss is possibly around £300 in the average pharmacy. At least 3000 new prices are in operation and must be memorised for a large percentage of goods affected. It is hoped that the reduced prices will stimulate sales.

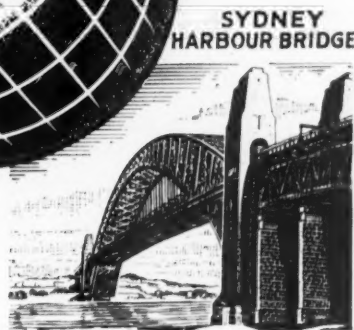
#### **Changes in Dangerous Drugs Regulations.**

New Regulations have been issued under the Dangerous Drugs Act. Among the changes is a requirement that sales of Dangerous Drugs must be entered both in the Poisons Register and the D.D. Register, and it is now specifically laid down that a pharmacist is only authorised to possess dangerous drugs on registered premises; this was formerly implied only by the Regulations. Prescriptions for groups of individuals are prohibited and the authority of midwives to possess drugs has been altered. A certified practising midwife may now be supplied with (a)



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medicinal opium, (b) tincture of opium, and (c) pethidine and its preparations. The midwife's supply order must, in addition to indicating the drugs, amount, etc., be signed by the local Medical Officer of Health or a person authorised by the Medical Officer to sign such orders. The midwife must sign the Poisons Register, but the pharmacist is no longer required to sign the midwife's Drug Book.

#### British Pharmaceutical Industry.

The annual report of the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry states that exports amounted to £31,651,698 in 1952 against the peak figure of £34,023,492 in 1951 and were 37 per cent. higher than those for 1950. Representatives of the Association are attending meetings with the Standard Medical Advisory Committee on the injection of wrong solutions. This Sub-Committee was set up to consider "what measures are necessary to reduce the danger of the wrong solution being injected subcutaneously, intravenously, or intrathecally, into hospital patients; to draw up a code of practice for the guidance of hospital staff in operating theatres and elsewhere; and to report back to the Committee."

The guest of honour at the Association's dinner was the Minister of Health, Mr. Iain Macleod, who said that he obtained little comfort from the claim that the wholesale cost of drugs represented only a penny in the shilling of the total bill. The bill for drugs was of the order of £50m. to £60m., a vast sum of money, for which they should make sure that they were getting full value. It could be compared with the total yield of the recent reductions in Purchase Tax and was only a million or two less than the sum involved in the 6d. Income Tax relief. That was the sort of comparison which they should have in mind. He was fully aware that the pharmaceutical industry made an important contribution to the export trade and he knew that it was just as important that they developed and continued their research, but it was only fair to let representatives of the industry know that the Government were deeply concerned with the size of the drug bill, a matter which was "under incessant, intensive and continuous review."

Mr. C. L. Saul, President of the Association, said it was not connected with price rings, monopolies, etc.; it enforced prices on no one. Most members preferred to run their businesses in their own way and the level of prices was controlled by the natural laws of competition; now in the home market the Government was their largest customer, and, although the industry did not welcome cost investigations, it had nothing to fear from them. If the industry were to make a present of the drugs dispensed by chemists under the N.H.S., the total cost of the service would still be above £400m. Mr. Saul emphasised that wholesale distributors operated on a modest discount, and, whereas the prices of certain drugs, especially new ones, might appear high, so, too, was the cost of research borne by manufacturers. It was no part of their duty to take sides in the controversy between proprietary medical products and their official equivalents. Some members were interested in the one, some in the other, and some in both. As manufacturers and wholesalers, they were only concerned to ensure that the pharmacist in shop or hospital had in stock the products which the doctor prescribed.

It was not always easy, he said, to obtain unanimity among their members, and some divergence of interest was inevitable between manufacturers and wholesalers. A case in point was the recent recommendations on the subject of liquids by volume and the introduction of the metric system. These recommendations had been accepted by a large majority of the industry, and the Board of Trade was also considering the advantages of the metric system and its possible introduction over a period of years. The Minister could rely on the

industry continuing to make every effort to improve on these figures despite great difficulties — such as the increasing competition from Germany, the Continent, Japan and certain countries who benefit from incentives on exported goods.

#### British Pharmaceutical Conference.

The arrangements for the British Pharmaceutical Conference in the first week in September in London are going ahead satisfactorily. The first meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Monday, August 31, and the last, the Conference Ball, for 8 p.m. on Friday, September 4. The symposium session will be on "Containers and Closures" and the Conference excursion is by river steamer on the Thames. An unusual feature on the social side is a visit to the Ballet, but perhaps an even more welcome feature in a crowded week, when there are many other attractions in London, is a free evening!

#### Royal Institute of Chemistry.

Sir Harry Jephcott was elected Coronation year President of the Royal Institute of Chemistry at the Annual General Meeting of the Society, held in London on April 24. Sir Harry, who became a corporate member of the Institute in 1917, is chairman and managing director of Glaxo Laboratories Ltd., and a director of Metal Box Company Ltd.

During the war years he was Manufactured Foods Advisor to the Ministry of Food, and later visited the U.S.A. on behalf of the Ministry of Supply to report on penicillin production. Sir Harry was knighted in 1946. The following year he was elected Chairman of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers, and was re-elected to the office for the two subsequent years. He is President of the Association at the present time.

He has been Chairman of the Council of the School of Pharmacy, University of London, since 1948, and is also a Governor of the London School of Economics.

## SOUTH AFRICA

#### Industrial Development.

The industrial development of South Africa is a tide which sweeps forward with ever-growing force. The Unilever organisation has just spent £250,000 on a new plant to equip the soap manufacturing in Durban, Cape Town and Johannesburg with the very latest for continuous production. Dr. C. H. Clarke, the Technical Director, in an interview, emphasised the confidence which his firm had in the Union.

A new Government project of vital interest to the country is Foskor, a phosphate processing plant, which, it is hoped, will make the Union independent of imported supplies. Based in proximity to phosphate deposits in the Transvaal, the plant is still in the preliminary stages, but so urgent is the need that work is being pressed forward with all speed.

Wattle has always been of great interest in Natal, where half a million acres are devoted to its cultivation. Total exports of bark and extract now equal some £6,000,000 per annum. Recent research has brought forth a new hair dye derived from Wattle; this, it is claimed, keeps the hair beautiful and maintains its youthful condition. Whether this claim, which emanates from the U.S.A., is justified remains to be seen, but 'tis a consummation devoutly to be wished!

Pests are a problem in the Wattle plantations, and an aerial survey is now being made over a control area of 4000 acres to determine the efficiency or otherwise of spraying against bagworm.

Cattle rearing is a national industry of paramount importance, and South Africa is subject to many diseases. Eastcoast fever is not the least of these, and the Veterinary Research Station at Ouderstepoort has

devoted much time to combating it. Extensive dipping to control the ticks which carry the disease has brought some degree of success. Recently, however, aureomycin has been shown to cure infected cattle, leaving them immune. Expense will, of course, limit its application for the time being, but large-scale production will reduce this factor.

#### **Native Quacks.**

In a recent letter I mentioned the great concern which is felt in official circles over the practices of witch doctors, herbalists, etc. Zululand and Natal are two areas in which they flourish to no small extent. Recently a journalist devoted some time to an investigation of the fees charged by these unorthodox practitioners. It is nothing for a native to pay a whole month's wages to one of his own ilk for medicine of which the main ingredient is quinine, distributed free by the Government to combat malaria.

#### **Chance for New Act.**

Since I last wrote, the election has come and gone and the same Government stays in power. Chemists look forward to the new Pharmacy Bill going through Parliament. Educationalists will welcome the full-time three-year course which has been in the air now for over two years; pharmacists and doctors alike will be overjoyed when the restrictions on the sale of many drugs comes into force.

#### **Death of Pharmacist Parliamentarian.**

The entire profession of pharmacy was grieved to learn of the death on the eve of the election of John Christie, President of the S.A. Pharmacy Board and Leader of the Labour Party. The only chemist in the House, John Christie had played a leading role in Pharmacy for many years, being Chairman of the Pharmaceutical Development Corporation and the proprietor of several pharmacies. Ailing for some time, Mr. Christie had recently been to the Mayo Clinic in America and had returned to the Union apparently restored in health and looking forward to the election battle.

By his death pharmacy has lost a great friend and it is now without representation in the House. Direct parliamentary representation is, of course, not possible, but it has always been of great advantage to pharmacy to have someone in the House to watch over its interests. The profession of pharmacy is ruled by the Medical Dental and Pharmacy Act, and is somehow always regarded as being subservient to the medical profession. Unless a close watch is kept on legislation it is possible that the prerogatives of pharmacy may be overlooked and jeopardised. So far no fund has been launched to support the candidature of a pharmacist member, but close watch will be kept on by-election possibilities.

#### **The Pharmaceutical Society.**

Unfortunately, the Pharmaceutical Society has gained little official recognition and in no way occupies the same position as the British Society. To attain that position is an aim to which all pharmacy is constantly working. As an immediate move it is hoped to increase the representation of the pharmacist on the Pharmacy Board. Membership of the Society is as yet voluntary; although the vast majority on the Register carry the title M.P.S., the few who remain outside nullify the efforts of the rest to speak for the profession. Within recent months a decided recruiting drive seems to have been going on and the membership strength has grown.

Strange as it may seem, although practically every newly-qualified chemist joins the Society, only a few attend Society meetings, and the work of the Society is carried out by a handful of old contemptibles.

At the Society's Annual General Meeting, to be held during May in Pretoria, the same old faces will appear,

with perhaps a new one here and there. Pretoria is the capital city of the administrative centre of the Union, and the A.G.M. should be the most interesting in years, graced by prominent people.

Of the motions to be debated at the A.G.M. some are hardy annuals, some new ones. One of the most important is one aimed at limiting the unqualified interest in pharmacy. It asks that the M.D. & P. Act be amended so that it will be necessary for a managing director of a firm acting as chemists and druggists to hold at least 51 per cent. of the shares. By law this managing director must be a chemist and druggist in active control of the business. If this motion is brought into force it will stop the flotation of companies to open chemists' shops or even to act as wholesalers. This will, I fear, be a retrogressive step, since one man is hardly likely to have sufficient capital of his own to float a wholesale house.

Just how agents will be dealt with I cannot visualise. At present foreign ethical houses usually float a South African company with a nominee managing director; it is hardly likely that they will permit someone outside their parent body to hold a controlling interest in their South African subsidiary.

However, the motion is aimed at the union of the unqualified and the qualified in retail business, and, no doubt, some solution will be arrived at. Unfortunately — or fortunately — I don't know which yet, the M.D. & P. Act recognises only one type of pharmacy — a place where pharmacy is done.

The dispensing activities of doctors will again come under review; encouraged by the recent comments of the Minister of Health on this subject, the Conference looks for positive results for a change.

A rule is to be sought, if the Conference accepts the motion, to forbid the direction of prescriptions from any professional man to any particular pharmacy. Such a rule is surely desirable, for any such arrangement creates suspicion a "quid pro quo."

#### **Professional Advertising.**

Advertising has always been a thorn in the pharmaceutical flesh and has caused more disciplinary inquiries than any other rule. One motion now seeks to limit advertising to a mere announcement of name, address and hours of business.

#### **Presidential Chain of Office?**

Whilst it is intended to prevent the individual chemist from blowing his own trumpet, the meeting will consider a proposal to decorate the President of the Society with a chain of office. Given an artist with some pharmaceutical background, it should be possible to create a chain of great artistic beauty, an heirloom for pharmacy.

#### **After-hour Trading.**

After-hour trading is still a great trouble in many areas. Several motions are aimed at the control of this evil. One remedy is to cause all chemists to close up completely at the normal closing hour if there is an emergency dispensary in the area. Another seeks to create by-laws of the Society by which closing hours may be fixed, and still another wishes the Pharmacy Board to regard conviction of a chemist for after-hour trading as an ethical lapse.

What is really remarkable is that, whilst these motions aim at better control of the pharmacist, the Annual General Meeting of last year rejected "in toto" a proposed disciplinary code which would have made it possible to impose all that these motions seek through the medium of Society by-laws. What a strange crowd we pharmacists are!

#### **New Scale of Wages.**

The Wage Board have recently recommended the application of a new wage scale to apprentices and assistants, which, viewed from the standpoint of yes-



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Alternatively, one collecting table can be provided to feed one or two packing lines, or bare machines without in-feed or collecting tables are also available.

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tery year, seems munificent. However, the apprentice doesn't think so! This same determination seeks to limit the hours of employment of a chemist to 45 hours a week, although pharmacies are open for 55 hours per week. If this is enforced it will in effect mean that a chemist will be working only 27½ hours per week, since two chemists will have to be employed.

Again, whilst an employee cannot be employed for more than 45 hours in his employer's pharmacy, he can, and frequently does, work elsewhere after hours. Many apprentices do this in order to raise cash to pay for their College course, but it is inequitable that he should be prevented from doing this in his normal place of employment.

The Retail Chemists' Association is to take steps to rectify these anomalies and some others. Trading by nursing homes is one of these. Many private nursing homes supply to their patients goods which are not dispensed medicines. This constitutes trading, which requires a general dealer's licence, but so far no nursing home has acquired one.

#### General.

There is little doubt that the Buy Aid Movement will come under fire. Last year the City of Bloemfontein set the lead by refusing to have anything further to do with them, all the traders signing an agreement to this effect. One signatory who defected was hauled into Court and brought into line. The Chamber of Commerce heartily approved of this action and many other cities are contemplating like action.

Not that the Buy Aids are feeling the pinch. The movement is spreading and it is amazing to note the number of people who are trying to organise these groups. I for one cannot see why any retailer should part with a discount unless he sees some return. The only return I have learned of so far is either a demand for bigger discount or a threat to open a business in opposition!

As regards business, the importation of goods from outside the Union is controlled. The Minister of Economic Affairs announced that the import allocation for 1953 will be 45 per cent. of those for 1948. Despite this 45 per cent. limitation there still seems to be big business opportunities in the Union if one may judge from the important visitors at present here. Dr. Scholl and the Chairman of Fisons Chemicals are currently visiting us and many executives are visiting their parent organisation in Great Britain and the States. Another index of the big business in the Union is the expenditure of £6½ millions on our telephone system.

As I write the S.A. Pharmacy Board has published a report covering six months of activity; of 171 people writing the Intermediate Exam, 47 passed and 82 failed, chemistry again accounting for the majority of refers. One-hundred-and-thirteen wrote the final Dip. Pharm. examination, 29 passed and 55 were referred, chemistry again responsible for most refers and dispensing running it a close second.

In order to try and improve the results, Colleges are now empowered to demand 80 per cent. attendance and 50 per cent. marks in three (3) terminal examinations before permitting a candidate to write.

Amongst matters considered by the Board was a request to permit pharmacies established only two years to take apprentices. This was turned down. Permission was given to four hospitals to train apprentices.

It is also revealed in this report that the Board has approached the University of South Africa to establish a degree in Pharmacy. Since this University is an external one, granting degrees to students who do not attend universities, it is obviously intended that the technical colleges will provide this tuition. This is a great step forward, especially for the technical colleges, which now will be able to do work of graduate standing, if this project materialises.

## Market Report

### LONDON MARKET REPORT.

May 11, 1953.

Generally market conditions have been quiet during the past four weeks, but the total turnover has been higher than in the January-April period of 1952. The most interesting feature has been the decline in Chinese commodities, due partly to the easier situation in Korea and partly to competition from Japan.

Chinese menthol, duty paid, has been sold at 45/- per lb., compared with 57/6 at the beginning of the year.

Peppermint oil has gone down to 27/6 per lb. for both drums and tins, and there is temporarily little difference between spot and forward rates.

Aniseed oil is worth 6/9 per lb. and 6/6, c.i.f.

Although the upward movement in Cape aloes, noted last month, has not continued, it is almost impossible to obtain quotations from South Africa on account of the prolonged drought.

This year's buchu leaves are now reaching London and are worth 2/2 to 2/- per lb.; last year's crop has been completely sold out.

This is also true of 1952 cascara bark, but some 1951 peel is available at 345/- per cwt., duty paid, and U.S. shippers have stocks available at 280/- per cwt. The first quotation for the 1953 crop is 250/- per cwt., c.i.f.

Senega root is cheaper at 13/9 per lb.

Among the spices, African ginger is in better supply and is cheaper at 100/- per cwt. on the spot and 90/- for shipment. The Jamaican variety is 115/- per cwt. for number 3 quality.

Only Colombian ipecacuanha is available and for small quantities 42/6 per lb. is asked; Nicaraguan is 46/- per lb., c.i.f.

Florentine orris root is lower by 5/- per cwt., at 155/-. Gentian root, of French origin, is in good supply at 100/- per cwt., the lowest price for many months.

Among the pharmaceutical gums there has been some spot activity in acacia as priority is being given to shipments of cotton from the Sudan; the spot price is around 102/6 per cwt. with shipment figures 12/6 per cwt. below this price.

Olibanum is in better supply with good white drop worth 250/- per cwt.

As may be surmised from the changes in aniseed and peppermint, there has been a general weakness in essential oils, but any attempt to purchase large quantities has brought a sharp reaction from holders.

Palmarosa is around 42/6 per lb. on the spot and 40/-, c.i.f.

B.P. lemon oil is from 40/- to 47/- per lb., according to quality.

Eucalyptus is easier at 4/3 to 4/6 per lb., according to quality and pack.

Spanish rosemary is 5/6 per lb., duty paid.

Chemical manufacturers report little activity, and price alterations have been few. Vanillin is down by 5/- per lb., with makers' rates at 30/3 per lb. for 1 cwt. lots.

All grades of ether are cheaper by 1d. per lb. following the recent reduction in alcohol. B.P. anaesthetic ether is 3/10 per lb. in cwt. quantities packed in winchesters with ton quantities at 3/4 in drums. Single lb. bottles are 3d. above the rate for winchesters.

Paraldehyde also is lower by 1½d. per lb. at 2/4½ per lb. for 6 winchester lots; this has little effect on retail chemists, as mental hospitals are the chief buyers.

The Ministry of Food has reduced the price of a number of unrefined oils by around 33 per cent.; ground nut oil is now £70 per ton.

# Trade Notes

## "SUCRETS" BONUS OFFER.

Sharp & Dohme Inc. advises that from May 15 "Sucrets" bonus terms will be operating throughout the Commonwealth.

"Sucrets" orders for each dozen will carry a charge for eleven tins only. Supplies can be obtained through usual wholesalers.

## B.D.H. PRICE LIST.

We have received from the British Drug Houses (Aust. Pty.) Ltd., of 250 Pitt Street, Sydney, a copy of the B.D.H. Medical Price List, 1952, as revised.

We understand that copies of this revised price list have been forwarded to chemists throughout the Commonwealth.

## FISONS CHEMICALS (PTY.) LTD.

Fassett & Johnson Ltd., of Sydney, has notified the following alteration and addition to the Price List of Fisons Chemicals (Pty.) Ltd. (formerly British Chemicals & Biologicals (Pty.) Ltd.), which came into operation at the beginning of May:—

### Trade Price

#### Alteration:

Dextran-Benger 6% in Saline, 540 cc. . . 43/6 each

#### Addition:

Dextraven-Benger, 540 cc. . . . . 55/6 each  
Subject to the usual wholesale discounts.

## THE CROOKES LABORATORIES LTD.

As from June 1, 1953, prices of most of the preparations issued by the Crookes Laboratories Limited will be substantially reduced. A price list has been mailed to every chemist throughout Australia, giving details of the price change.

A number of new preparations have been included in the price list, and chemists may wish to familiarise themselves with such preparations as Efocaine, Mephosol, Pertenal and Lekamin. Should any further information be required beyond that given in the list, the company or its agents will be happy to supply the desired details.

Ethico Distributors, 111 Stirling Street, Perth, have been appointed Crookes' agents for Western Australia, and L. R. Prosser & Co., have been appointed Crookes' agents for Queensland.

## NEW "B.W. & CO." PRODUCTS.

Burroughs Wellcome & Co. (Australia) Ltd. has announced the introduction in Australia of the following products:—

"Anginine" Brand Glyceryl Trinitrate (Stabilised) compressed products of glyceryl trinitrate in a new-type base which replaces the official cocoa base specified in the B.P. "Anginine" products will retain virtually their full labelled potency for any reasonable period under all conditions. The products are issued in one strength only and contain gr. 1/100 of glyceryl trinitrate (products are scored for division of dosage). Available in bottles of 100 and 1000 listed at 1/6 and 11/9 each respectively, "Anginine" is allowable as a Pharmaceutical Benefit.

"Vasylox" Brand Solution of Methoxamine Hydrochloride, a new nasal decongestant with a rapid and prolonged action which rarely gives rise to any secondary engorgement and does not stimulate the central nervous system. "Vasylox" contains 0.25 per cent. w/v of the active ingredient and is issued in bottles of 1 fl. oz. (each with separate dropper). List price is 4/4 each.

## TEK TOOTHBRUSH NOVELTY QUESTION CONTEST

Johnson & Johnson Pty. Ltd. has announced a novel and unusual consumer contest—a Tek Toothbrush Novelty Question Contest.

This contest has been tied to the company's "Quiz Kids" Programme. The novelty questions are to be used in this programme, and the company will give away 32 Coronation "Malvern Star" cycles to the people who send in those entries that are chosen during the contest period.

This contest is novel and topical, too, coming as it does at the time of the biggest news event of the year—the Royal Coronation. Duration of the contest will be from June 7 until August 31, and the first weekly prize winner will be announced on July 5.

This new contest will be announced on Sunday, June 7, at 7.30 p.m. (3AW/CV, Friday, June 5, at 8.30 p.m.).

During the contest period Johnson & Johnson Pty. Ltd. will feature this new consumer contest in about 1000 chemists' windows throughout the whole of Australia.

## PRESENTATION OF ELASTOPLAST FIRST-AID OUTFIT TO AUSTRALIAN TEST TEAM.

It is a long-standing tradition of T. J. Smith & Nephew Ltd., Hull, to present specially equipped first-aid cabinets to travelling sports teams or scientific expeditions. In this connection presentation kits were supplied to the British Spitzbergen Expedition of 1951 and to the pre-



Back Row (l. to r.): D. Ring, K. Miller, D. Tallon, A. Morris (Vice-Captain), G. A. Davies (Manager), A. James (Masseur).

Front Row: L. Hassett (Captain), E. Harrison (Rep. T. J. Smith & Nephew Ltd., Hull), C. McDonald.

sent British Mount Everest Expedition which hopes to reach the summit during the next weeks. [Everest was conquered on May 29, by E. P. Hillary, of New Zealand, and Tensing Bhutis, a Nepalese guide.—Ed.]

For many years visiting sporting teams to both England and Australia have been presented with these kits, and it is with pleasure that we publish a photograph of such a presentation being made to the Australian cricket team which is at present in England. The illustration shows Lindsay Hassett, the Australian XI captain, accepting the cabinet on behalf of his team.

## EVANS MEDICAL SUPPLIES LTD.

We have received a copy of the annual accounts and the report of the Directors as submitted at the annual general meeting of members of the company, held at Liverpool on May 7.

The Chairman's statement, presented as part of this report, indicates that in the year under review (i.e., to 31/12/52) the progressive expansion of sales which the company experienced for some years both in Great Britain and overseas, was checked. In volume, sales show a small increase, and in value a small decline. The Directors recommend a total distribution for the year of 4½d. per 5/- ordinary stock unit.





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## British Medical Laboratories Pty. Limited

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One passage in the statement reads: "Overseas trade is invariably subject to set-backs in this or that country due to circumstances beyond our control. In 1952, however, in almost every market of major importance to us we experienced restrictions of one kind or another. France and Australia found it necessary to impose import restrictions as early as February/March and were followed by New Zealand in June."

After reviewing developments during the year, the Chairman records of some overseas markets: "We can look with confidence to an improvement in some, although we must expect a deterioration in others. On balance it seems reasonable to expect an improvement as compared with 1952."

The difficulties and challenges of the past year have brought with them throughout the whole organisation increased efficiency, and it is claimed that the company has never been better equipped to face the more competitive conditions now being experienced.

As a means of building up the direct interest of stockholders in the products of their own company, an illustrated brochure, "A Note on Selected Evans Products," has been sent to all stockholders as a supplement to the report and accounts for the past year.

## P.A.T.A. PRICES

### P.A.T.A. of N.S.W.

Notified 13/5/53—

#### Chemists' Section: Additions.

Allen & Hanburys (Australia) Ltd.

Size	Retail		Wholesale
8 oz.	6/6	Allenburys Orange Juice . . . . .	52/- doz.
		Rickard Medical Products Pty. Ltd.	
	8/6	As-Mo-Lets . . . . .	68/- "

#### Chemists' Section: Alterations.

British Patent Perforated Paper Co. Pty. Ltd.

1/5	Wunda Toilet Paper . . . . .	10/8 "
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#### General Section: Alterations.

Rocke, Tompsitt & Co. Ltd.

No. 1	1/6	Golcryst . . . . .	12/- "
No. 2	3/-	Golcryst . . . . .	24/- "

Schaffer and Company—W. K. Buckley Products.

3/-	Buckley's Canadiol Mixture . . . . .	27/- "
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3/-	Buckley's Kiddi-Koff Children's Cough Syrup . . . . .	27/- "
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3/-	Buckley's Wintrol Rub . . . . .	27/- "
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Parcel Advantage: Canadiol: 3-doz. lots 24%,

6-doz. lots 5% discount. Discount extends to other Buckley products added to Canadiol lots.

#### Transfer to Chemists' Section from General Section.

Allen & Hanburys (Australia) Ltd.

8 oz.	7/6	Haliborange . . . . .	60/- "
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Notified 21/5/1953—

#### General Section: Alterations.

Bristol-Myers Co. Pty. Ltd.

Parcel advantage unchanged.

Elliotts & Australian Drug Pty. Ltd.

8-oz. size unchanged.

Size.	Retail.		Wholesale.
Purse	1/9	"Mum" . . . . .	11/6 doz.
Large	4/6	"Mum" . . . . .	30/- "
Medium	2/9	"Mum" . . . . .	18/6 "
4-oz.	4/9	Virol . . . . .	38/- "
16-oz.	9/6	Virol . . . . .	86/- "

## SIGMA COMPANY LIMITED

Notes of Annual Meeting of Sigma Co. Ltd., Held at the Company's Factory, Tromax Pty. Ltd., Port Melbourne, on April 30, 1953.

In opening the meeting the Chairman, Mr. E. C. McClelland, suggested that the balance sheet and profit and loss account, as printed and circulated, be taken as read. This was moved by Mr. H. A. Braithwaite, seconded by Mr. Gregory, and carried.

Mr. F. N. Lee moved that the balance sheet and profit and loss account be received. Seconded by Mr. Ramsay, and carried.

The Chairman then read the Director's Report to the meeting. No comment was made on the balance sheet.

In the course of his remarks, the Chairman explained the difficulties in the past year's trading and mentioned plans for future trading, giving stimulating suggestions regarding penicillin products, ethicals and proprietary lines. Mention was made of the work the Screening Committee was carrying out, in examining proposals for new lines, the desire to expand the Carlton Warehouse, of Special Merchandising Courses being conducted for the education of pharmacists and new staffs, also of the changes in executive staff. Thanks were conveyed on behalf of the Board of Directors to long-service members of the staff, who had given loyal service for 25 years and more. Gold watches to commemorate the occasion had already been presented at a complimentary dinner.

Mr. Lee, speaking in support of the motion for the adoption of the balance sheet and profit and loss account, commented at length on the possibilities of future business, and support by shareholders of their own Company.

Mr. Crowley congratulated the management of Sigma Co. Ltd. on their creditable performance last year, and made the suggestion that the number of shareholders should be shown on the balance sheet.

The next business was to elect a Director to represent Preference Shareholders, and Mr. A. H. Mansell, the retiring Director, was re-elected, unopposed. Mr. C. P. A. Taylor, the retiring Director, representing Ordinary and Vendors' Shareholders, was also re-elected unopposed.

Messrs. Davey, Garcia & J. G. Davis, the retiring Auditors, were re-elected and their remuneration was fixed at 800 gns per annum on the motion of Mr. R. Francis, seconded by Mr. Crowley.

On closing, the Chairman apologised for the absence of Mr. E. H. Leete and Mr. Zerbe, due to illness in both cases. [Mr. E. H. Leete passed away on May 3, vide paragraph in Victorian news section of this issue.—Ed.]

The Chairman then declared the meeting open for general business.

Mr. H. A. Braithwaite suggested a co-operative price list, reply being made that although this had been attempted, co-operation was not obtained. Mr. Crowley suggested the issue of smaller price lists containing Sundries, Veterinary, Industrial Chemicals and Parcel Buys. Mr. Gregory, of Rosebud, suggested that a circular be put out by the Company requesting constructive suggestions regarding the Company's functioning, the re-instatement of the practice of forwarding stamped addressed envelopes to country shareholders, as against the telephone service given to city and suburban shareholders, and also suggesting that prices be listed against sundries on the packing slips.

Mr. Sarah, of Garfield, inquired if better discounts on parcel buying of Sigma Proprieties was practicable. Mr. Haigh, in reply, explained the reason for change in discounts, pointing out the high cost of advertising to promote sales. Mr. R. G. Francis supported Mr. Haigh by referring to dividends received. Mr. F. N. Lee followed by commenting on increased sales to date of Sigma Proprieties for this year. Mr. Butler spoke of the competition in bulk tablets, and Mr. Lee replied by giving details of the analysis of quantities and strengths of some of these lines by the Pharmaceutical Service Guild.

Mr. Cattenach, of Spotswood, suggested a profit-sharing scheme for this Company. The Chairman replied that this had been looked into by the Directors, whose examination of the scheme indicated that a review of salaries every year was better, and that a superannuation scheme was in operation for most of the executive and staff.

Mr. D. G. Wood suggested that a comprehensive Sigma list be compiled, giving retail prices of tablets. Mr. Haigh drew attention to the difficulty in drawing a line between proprietary and standard tablets, but stated that the matter would be noted.

Mr. Sarah, of Garfield, suggested that travellers be



given authority to issue credits on errors on invoices, and also inquired regarding commission on travellers' business. Mr. Haigh explained the procedure in regard to travellers' remuneration.

Mr. Crowley suggested that shareholders' meetings for special business be held at night to assist one-man pharmacies. The Chairman replied that consideration would be given to this. Miss Matchett spoke of her experience of travellers giving prices of sundries on request, which was most satisfactory.

Mr. Cattnach raised a query regarding taxi services. Mr. Haigh replied by mentioning the lack of support by shareholders in such a scheme and at the same time explaining that the very little use made of Saturday morning warehouse service had prompted a decision to discontinue Saturday morning trading. Mr. Braithwaite followed by suggesting that a rostered Saturday morning service be given by the Wholesale Houses. He was advised that this was proposed, but not approved by some competitors.

The meeting closed at 10 p.m.

### P.A.T.A. OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

#### Annual Report.

Extracts from the report of the Council for the year ended December 31, 1952, presented at the thirtieth annual meeting of members, held at Atlas Buildings, 8 Spring street, Sydney, on May 19, 1953, at 8 p.m.

**Membership.**—Manufacturers' Branch: Membership increased by two on last year's figure.

Retailers' Branch: Retail membership has again increased and now stands at 1117, the net gain for the year being 39.

**Council.**—At the annual election Messrs. W. R. E. Henderson (British Medical Laboratories Pty. Ltd.) and G. Percival (Allen & Hanburys (A'asia) Ltd.) were elected to the Manufacturers' Section to fill the vacancies caused by the retirement of Mr. W. J. Rogers and the death of Mr. A. G. Short. Mr. J. Little was elected to the Retail Section in the place of Mr. R. K. Strang, who resigned. Mr. W. A. Patterson was re-elected Chairman and Mr. A. C. Fraser became Hon. Treasurer.

**Executive.**—Messrs. N. V. Kerr and E. H. Kidger (Manufacturers' Section) and Messrs. A. C. Fraser and O. V. Leggo (Retail Section) were elected, Mr. E. H. Kidger filling the place of Mr. A. G. Short.

**Finance.**—Delay has again occurred in certain returns of income. Subject to later adjustment on this account the surplus for the year rose to £765 (1951, £259). Income increased to £2203 (1951, £2181), while expenditure declined to £1437 (1951, £1922). In largest part the higher surplus reflects savings in salaries and travelling expenses.

**Secretaryship.**—As from January 1, following the retirement of Mr. G. E. Nicholas at December 31, 1951, Mrs. M. G. Hall became Acting Secretary. Review of the situation was undertaken in September, in accordance with Council's resolution when making the appointment. It was then decided to renew Mrs. Hall's appointment for the ensuing year at an increased salary. Council acknowledges with appreciation the continued contribution of the Hon. General Secretary to the efficient working of the Association. Mr. Cox was constantly at call during the year for consultation, advice and assistance.

**Protected List.**—The 22nd Issue of the Protected List was distributed to take effect at June 1, 1952. In compilation utmost care was taken so that prices should be "up to the minute" at the face date. Hope had been cherished that the wave of rising prices might then be nearly spent; the hope was vain however. Week by week, up to the date of this report, alterations of price of numbers of articles have had to be circulated in amendment of the 22nd issue. Stability in costs is anxiously desired by manufacturers. Consumer prices of most articles are thought now to be at their economic peak; further increase, even if warranted, might react adversely on turnover.

**Price Maintenance.**—In February the Drug and Allied Trades Council of Australia, meeting at Wagga, con-

sidered a remit from Victoria, which aimed at the formation of a "Federal P.A.T.A." The remit was not approved, being justly deemed to be impracticable. Though the Association was afforded no official intimation of the proposal, several of the delegates attending the meeting sought, in advance, information and advice from the secretaries in regard to a matter that obviously could deeply concern the P.A.T.A. of New South Wales. The rejection of the proposal prompted the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild of Australia, following advice by the Association, to give notice to the above D.A.T. Council of a remit in the following terms:—

That, in order to make secure throughout the Commonwealth the exercise of a manufacturer's right in law to protect his continuing interest in the resale of goods bearing his trade mark, it is desirable that the Council give early consideration to and decide upon steps to be taken to induce the Federal Government to include in the trade mark law of the Commonwealth the provisions of Section 53 of the Trade Marks Bill introduced by the Menzies Government in the Parliament in 1939.

The remit, however, was not proceeded with because of the F.P.S. Guild withdrawing from membership of the D.A.T. Council.

It is appropriate to add here that, in the fevered political atmosphere of the year, no perceptible progress was made in regard to the above-mentioned "Section 53."

**Price Protection.**—No instance of price cutting of any article in the Protected List in any section of retail distribution came to notice during the year. This is gratifying in view of the fact that uncontrolled price reductions of grocery proprietary goods have been occurring in Sydney suburbs. The grocery trade is similarly disturbed in Melbourne, by current report, and even more extreme disorder is rife in Brisbane. The situation in the northern capital is the politically designed result of the prohibition by law in Queensland of any form of price maintenance. That such conditions have revived so widely, though the pharmaceutical trade seems not to be directly affected, is a warning signal that the Association's protective measures cannot be relaxed until at least trade mark legislation, yet to be enacted, provides other recourse against the trade bandit.

**Coding of Articles.**—Whilst the Council can view the retail price situation with satisfaction, there is ground for much concern because of the unexplained possession by an unlicensed country retailer of certain Chemists' Section articles in quantity, and by an unlicensed metropolitan wholesaler of a range of listed articles. These current incidents raise in acute form the imperative need of the attachment by manufacturers of coding devices and systems for the identification of goods, such as were formerly in use, but dropped during wartime. It was largely by such means that the P.A.T.A. in earlier years was enabled to trace goods to their source, and thereby to detect illicit supply, and to help the police in running to earth thieves and receivers. The question requires earnest consideration by manufacturers who, in current conditions, may find its adoption practicable.

**Review of Permits and Agreements.**—A comprehensive review of permits granted to country storekeepers was completed. The terms of the renewed permits were strengthened to cope with certain abuses that had come to notice. In addition, agreements in the current form were required to be entered into by all friendly societies' dispensaries and pharmacies, in replacement of earlier forms.

**Obituary.**—In the death of Archibald Gordon Short on March 20, 1952, the Association and Council suffered a grievous loss. Throughout all the years of the Association he was a member of the Council and for the last three years Hon. Treasurer. He gave magnificent service. Straightforward, morally courageous, unflinching in whatever he undertook, supremely loyal to causes and friends, his memory is deeply revered.

For and on behalf of the Council,  
W. A. PATTERSON, Chairman.

## **SPECIAL BONUS OFFER**

**AVAILABLE NOW !!!**

**FOR EVERY DOZEN ORDERED  
YOU ARE CHARGED FOR  
ELEVEN TINS ONLY**

**ORDER NOW THROUGH YOUR  
REGULAR WHOLESALER**



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**FOR FAST RELIEF OF  
IRRITATED THROATS**

SUCRETS contain a reliable anti-septic that soothes sore throats in a matter of seconds!

SUCRETS exert a prolonged anti-septic action on irritated mucous membranes.

SUCRETS are pleasant-tasting lozenges, individually wrapped and

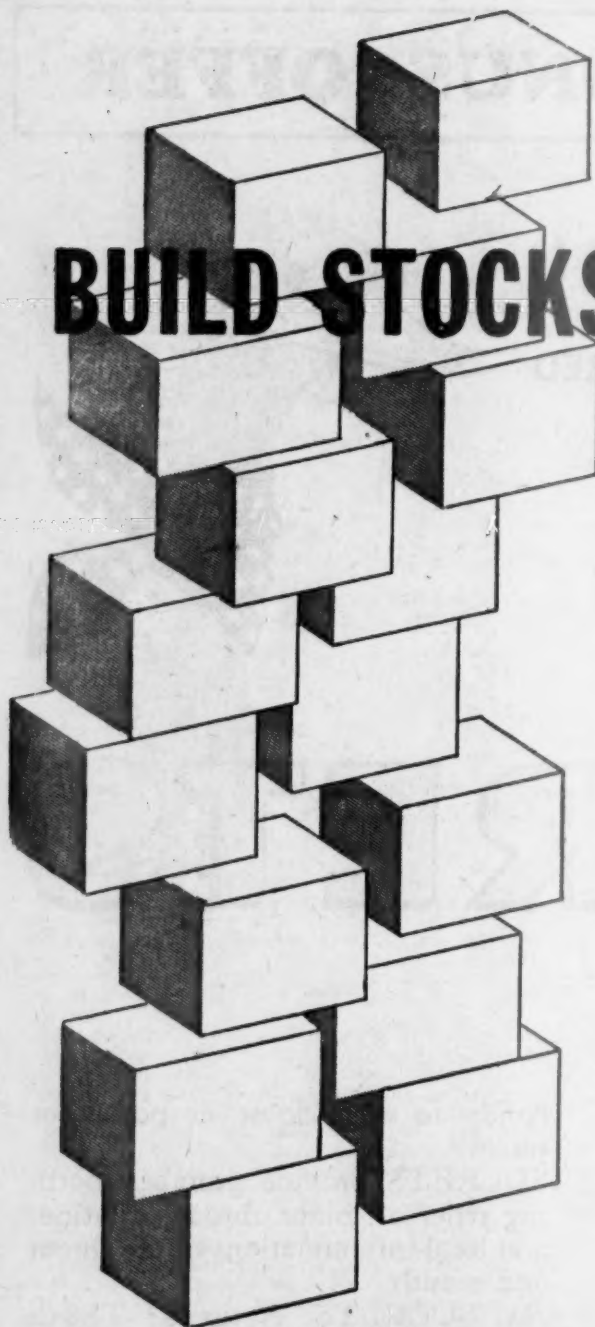
handy to carry loose in pocket or purse.

SUCRETS provide prompt, soothing relief of minor throat irritations and local inflammations of the throat and mouth.

Rx. SUCRETS, Antiseptic Throat Lozenges, are supplied in convenient tins of 24 lozenges.



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- ★ ROX BABY POWDER
- ★ T.C.P. ANTISEPTIC
- ★ TRIPLUS
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# Commonwealth and State News

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### PERSONAL and GENERAL

### State News

We extend our best wishes to **Mr. V. Elder** and **Mr. Joe Berinson**, who have opened new pharmacies at Kondinin and Walcott street, Mt. Lawley, respectively.

Visitors at the Pharmaceutical Council office last month included **Dr. J. Stanley White**, of England, and **Mr. G. Nolan**, of Ipswich, Queensland.

**Mr. M. Southee**, of Perth, was amongst the lucky travellers who did the round trip to Singapore last month.

**Mr. J. Griffiths**, a visitor from South Australia and an ex-W.A. pharmacist, was extended a special welcome at the Pharmaceutical Society's meeting on April 29.

We are glad to report that **Mr. R. W. Dalby** has quite recovered from the operation which he underwent last month.

**Miss M. Spelman**, of Rees' Pharmacy, has accepted a position as dispenser at the Adelphi Pharmacy, Perth, and **Mr. R. E. Boylen** has filled the vacancy at Rees' Pharmacy.

**Donations of Apparatus.**—The Pharmaceutical Council desires to acknowledge the following donations of apparatus for use in the dispensing laboratory: Bench powder mill and carboy, from **Mr. J. M. Nicholas**, of Swanbourne; micro-minor balance and case, from **Mr. R. W. Dalby**, of Leederville.

**Interstate Transfers.**—Messrs. **L. Krasenstein** and **G. M. Lewis**, two newly-qualified pharmacists, have gone to Victoria, where they intend doing relieving work for a few months. The exodus has been more than balanced by the arrival of **Miss C. L. Blake** from New Zealand, **Misses D. J. Paton** and **V. V. Todd** and **Mr. A. H. Gliddon** from Victoria. **Miss D. L. Palmer** from England, Messrs. **D. R. Ford** and **P. F. Minnahan** from New South Wales.

**Relievers and assistants** registered last month included: **B. Lister** to Sargent's Pharmacy, Inglewood; **J. C. Wall** to Johnson & Co., Albany; **Miss C. L. Blake** to Messrs. **R. J. Healy** and **J. W. Butler**; **Miss D. J. Paton** to **Mr. C. E. Cooper**, Narrogin; **Miss V. V. Todd** to **Mr. K. W. Smith**; **P. F. Minahan** to **Mr. J. C. Ward**; **D. R. Ford** to **Mr. E. L. Tyler**; **P. R. Merryweather** to Lankester's Pharmacy and **Arnold's Pharmacy**; **R. H. Emslie** to **R. W. Dalby**; **L. G. Jones** to **A. A. Baxter**; and **M. C. Hawke** to **H. N. Armstrong**.

### PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

Two very interesting addresses were given to the Pharmaceutical Society of W.A. during April. **Dr. G. I. Henderson** spoke on "The Alleviation of Deafness" and **Dr. J. Stanley White** on the "Newer Antibiotics." [A synopsis of a similar address given in other States of Australia was published in our issue of March 30, pages 244 and 246.—Ed.] At the conclusion of the address those present were the guests of **Parke, Davis & Co. Ltd.** at supper at the Adelphi Hotel.

Further talks arranged for this year are as follows:—**June 3:** Burns and Their Treatment, **Dr. L. E. LeSouef**. **June 24:** Drugs and the Nervous System, **Dr. E. R. Beech**. **July 22:** Drug Sensitisation, **Dr. R. L. Leedman**. **August 26:** Plant Hormones, **Dr. H. J. Grieve**. **September 23:** Biology and Human Expediency, **Dr. N. D. Crosbie**. **October 28:** Upper Respiratory Infections, **Dr. L. F. Gray**. **November 25:** Pharmaceutical Apprenticeships, Forum.

### THE PRESIDENT ENTERTAINS.

On May 18, the President of the Pharmaceutical Council of Western Australia, **Mr. H. D. Fitch**, and his wife entertained members of the Women Pharmacists' Association at a games evening at Earl's Court. There was not a dull moment throughout the whole evening, and the supper was excellent. Members of the Council and their wives who were amongst the guests assisted the President in organising the various competitions. The prize winners were **Miss Therese Murphy** and **Mrs. J. B. Bullock**.

In proposing the toast of the Women Pharmacists' Association, the President paid tribute to the valuable work performed by members of the Association, particularly the President and Secretary, **Mrs. H. S. Lucraft** and **Mrs. D. F. Heaney**, also the Past President, **Mrs. H. M. Lyons**, and Past Secretary, **Miss V. Garcia**.

**Mrs. Lucraft** replied on behalf of those present, and expressed the sincere appreciation of the Women Pharmacists' Association to **Mr. Fitch** for his very generous gesture in providing such a delightful and well-organised evening.

### CHLORDANE CONTROLLED.

The following regulation has been added to Regulations under the Pharmacy and Poisons Act of Western Australia:—

"82A. Every container in which chlordane or any preparation thereof is sold shall bear on the label a statement in clear type bearing the words:—

1. This substance is toxic when taken by mouth or absorbed through the skin.
2. Do not use in places where it may come in contact with food.
3. If spillage contaminates clothes or skin, clothes should be removed and the skin thoroughly washed.
4. Do not use on extensive areas indoors.

2.Regulation 85 is amended by adding paragraph (f) as follows:—

(f) Androgenic and oestrogenic hormones.  
3. Appendix "C" is amended by adding to the list of poisons—"Chlordane and any preparation thereof."

### ADDITIONS TO TENTH SCHEDULE.

The following substances have been added to the Tenth Schedule of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1910-1952:—

(1) By adding:—

Aureomycin,  
Chloramphenicol,  
Streptomycin,  
Dihydrostreptomycin,  
Terramycin,

all natural androgenic and oestrogenic hormones and synthetic substances having or purporting to have androgenic or oestrogenic activities for human use;

Cortisone and other supra-renal cortical hormones either natural or synthetic and andreno-cortico-trophic hormone (A.C.T.H.) and preparations containing these substances in free or combined form, or purporting to contain them in any pharmaceutically elaborated form;

(2) By adding after "Synthetic Antihistamine drugs, except preparations for external use" (Government Gazette, 2/5/52), the words "or for motion sickness only."

### CONFERENCE ON PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION.

A report on the Conference on Pharmaceutical Education held at Adelaide on February 9 and 10 was published in the April issue of the Journal, pages 329

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA (Continued)

to 336. Some errors crept into the report, which we take this first opportunity of correcting, as follows:—

(1) Page 329, col. 2, par. 6, line 4—"Organic Chemistry" should read "Inorganic Chemistry."

(2) Page 329, col. 2, par. 8—"After 'Organic Chemistry (Theory and Practical)' insert 'and Pharmaceutics (Theory and Practical).'"

(3) Page 330, col. 1, par. 7, line 3—"3.20 p.m." should read "2.0 p.m."

The corrected paragraphs will then read—

(1) Page 329, par. 6—"In the first year students attended the College two half-days and one evening, subjects being Pharmaceutics, Pharmaceutical Latin, Materia Medica, Biology, Inorganic Chemistry and Commercial Pharmacy."

(2) Page 329, par. 8—"In the third year three half-days and one evening were spent at the College. Subjects included Organic Chemistry (Theory and Practical) and Pharmaceutics (Theory and Practical). In third term one hour each week was devoted to Bacteriology."

(3) Page 330, par. 7—"Mr. Avenell said most of the half days were from 9.0 a.m. to 1.0 p.m. Apprentices generally got back to the pharmacy about 2.0 p.m."

### PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Notes from meeting held May 5, 1953.

**Present.**—Messrs. H. D. Fitch, G. H. Dallimore, R. I. Cohen, T. D. H. Allan, E. J. Nicholas, A. A. Baxter, and F. W. Avenell (Registrar).

**Registrations Approved.**—J. C. Wall (Final, W.A.), D. R. Ford (ex N.S. Wales), A. H. Gliddon (ex Victoria), Cora Leah Blake (ex New Zealand), P. F. Minahan (ex N.S. Wales), Dorothy Jean Paton (ex Victoria) and Vera V. Todd (ex Victoria).

**Indentures Registered.**—G. Kostadinov to W. S. L. Eddleston.

**Indentures Suspended and Resumed on Account of National Service Training.**—Nine indentures, for periods of approximately three months, ending at latest April 14.

**Inspector's Report** included details of—

(a) Sale of Penicillin Cream without a prescription. The Registrar was authorised to prosecute in this case.

(b) Drug register at one pharmacy visited had not been written up for about two months. Registrar was instructed to request explanation and report to next meeting.

**Financial.**—Accounts totalling £369/16/2 were passed for payment.

**P.A.A.N.Z. Conference.**—It was decided to submit the following items for the agenda:—

(1) Paper by Mr. E. J. Nicholas entitled "Practical Pharmaceutics at Perth Technical College."

(2) Interchange of information concerning migrant applicants for pharmacy course concessions.

(3) Introduction of scientific section at P.A.A.N.Z. Conferences.

Mr. E. J. Nicholas was elected as an additional representative to the Conference to be held at Sydney in August.

### THE GUILD

The State Branch Committee of the Western Australian Branch of the Guild met at 51 King street, Perth, on May 12, at 8 p.m.

**Present.**—Messrs. G. H. Dallimore (chair), G. D. T. Allan, R. Cohen, W. Lewis, P. Healy, J. Bodkon, and members as per attendance sheet.

**Wages Award.**—The Secretary reported that to date no further word had been heard from the Union officials.

### S.B.C. Meeting

**P.M.S. OUNCE DISPENSING RATES.**—No further reply had been received from Federal Office.

**Correspondence.**—The correspondence as read was received.

**New Members Elected.**—Messrs. I. R. Dick, 759 Canning highway, Applecross, and M. H. Gardiner, Dallowallinu.

**Public Service Association (Application for Discounts).**

—Resolved that the application of the Public Service Association for discount to its members be rejected, that this meeting is opposed to discounts being conceded to any such organisation, and that the Retail Traders' Association be advised that the Guild is opposed to discounts being allowed to anyone outside the trade, and requesting the Chamber of Commerce to take up the matter with other retail Guilds.

**P.A.A.N.Z. Conference: W.A. Remit.**—Resolved that the following remit be forwarded to the Secretary of the P.A.A.N.Z. for inclusion in the agenda:—

That the manufacturers, suppliers, wholesalers, or whoever is responsible for the detailing to the medical profession, of ethical and similar products, be approached with the object of restraining them from informing the Doctors by either word or circular of the wholesale or retail price of such ethicals, and that the only prices to be quoted to the medical profession be the retail dispensed prices, as Chemists are continually being embarrassed explaining the difference to customers.

**Report from Trade and Commerce Committee.**—Mr. G. D. T. Allan presented this report at the last committee meeting, and in doing so put forward the following recommendations:—

(1) That a letter be forwarded to Mr. Leggo suggesting that the price of "Gilseal" wrapping at approximately 5/- per lb. seemed excessive, considering that plain paper cost only 2/2 per lb.

(2) That as 5 oz. bottles varied in size and would not always hold 5 oz., "Gilseal" Olive Oil be labeled, not less than 4½ or 4¼ oz. and that the supplier be requested to submit a new price.

(3) That monthly deliveries of "Gilseal" lines was inadequate and that steps be taken to bring about more frequent deliveries.

(4) That the price of Tess Macassar Oil be fixed to sell at not less than 3/3 and that a request be made to have it put on the P.A.T.A.

(5) That a check be made of the large wholesalers re the price of "Sedna" Wine Tonic.

(6) That inquiries be made re the local supply of Hearing Aid batteries and moulded ear pieces.

(7) That the blank space on "Gilseal" Household own label packs be filled in with "Sold by your Guild Chemist."

Resolved that the Trade and Commerce report be received and its recommendations accepted.

The meeting closed at 11 p.m.

## TASMANIA

### PHARMACY BOARD

### Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of Tasmania met at 65 Murray street, Hobart, on May 4, at 8 p.m.

**Present.**—Messrs. H. H. Pearce (President), J. M. Beaumont, T. A. Stephens, A. G. Gould, D. R. Crisp, Dr. J. C. Burgin, and the Registrar.

**Students.**—Arrangements for the biology classes were discussed. It was considered that the holding of this subject for four hours between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m.

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# FENOX

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PHENYLEPHRINE and NAPHA-  
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in the patient's  
favour . . .**



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(METHYLANDROSTENEDIOL. ORGANON)

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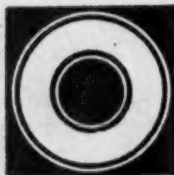
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## TASMANIA (Continued)

would be too much for the students to cope with in addition to four other nights a week.

Dr. Burgin explained that it was hoped arrangements could be made for the holding of Physics and Chemistry classes in the day-time after the end of this term, and that this would relieve the position.

The position regarding the allocation of space for laboratory and lecture room for Pharmacy Students at the Technical College was discussed. Dr. Burgin expressed concern that this had twice been allocated to him and after having prepared plans for the preparation of the space he was advised that the room was not available, and at the present time there was no place allocated for Pharmacy Students.

A letter was received from the Students' Association suggesting that schools should be advised of the present minimum requirements for apprenticeship in Pharmacy and of the desirability of having training in the three first-year subjects.

The meeting decided that the appropriate schools should be advised accordingly.

Minutes of the Council meeting of the National Union of Pharmaceutical Students of Australia were received, and it was decided that they should be circulated to members.

A letter was received from Mr. J. A. Walker, of Scottsdale, advising that Mr. J. W. Saltmarsh would be taking a correspondence course with the Victorian College of Pharmacy.

**Adelaide Conference Report.**—Dr. Burgin expressed the feeling that he had gained much useful information at the conference and answered questions by members regarding the report.

The President thanked Dr. Burgin for attending the meeting. Dr. Burgin then retired.

**Indentures.**—Ian Blair Gamble to Ian Bruce McLeod. Registration approved subject to the presentation of Schools Board Certificate.

Malcolm Gordon Cooney to Norman George Dineen. Registration approved subject to presentation of Schools Board Certificate.

Robert Francis Philpott to Robert Martin Boland. As the number of hours under Clause 3B had not been entered on these indentures the meeting decided that they should be returned for completion.

**Re Brian McLoughlin:** A letter was received from Mr. L. J. Abra, stating that McLoughlin had been assisting in his pharmacy in after-school jobs for the past three years, and he now wished to know if he would be accepted for apprenticeship. Modern Schools Certificate, together with the Headmaster's reference were enclosed. Mr. Abra stated that the Headmaster of the Launceston Technical College had suggested that McLoughlin could attend night school and study Matriculation English Literature, English Expression, and Mathematics I (equivalent to Schools Board Maths. II). After considering the details supplied, it was decided that if McLoughlin passed at Matriculation standard in English Literature, English Expression, and Maths. I, with General Science A, he would be accepted for apprenticeship, but no deviation from these requirements could be considered.

**Pharmaceutical Register.**—William Ernest Victor Jack (ex N.S.W.); Valda Mary Adamson (ex Victoria) and John Joseph Dirou (ex N.S.W.), were registered.

**Finance.**—The financial statement was presented, showing a balance of £825/7/8. Accounts totalling £82/14/8 were passed for payment.

**Inspector.**—Three reports were received from the Inspector covering the period from April 1 until May 1. These were read in detail and showed that eight breaches of the Pharmacy Act had been detected at general stores, and no breaches of the Acts had been committed by pharmacists.

The meeting decided that these reports should be sent to our Solicitor for attention.

**Stock Medicines Board.**—Consideration was given to nominating a representative for appointment to the Stock Medicines Board, but members stated that it was practically impossible for them to attend meetings in the day time. It was, therefore, decided to write to the Secretary, requesting whether consideration could be given to holding meetings in the evening.

**Poisons Act.**—A reply was received from the British Medical Association advising that they considered "Avomine" should not be exempted from the Regulations under the Poisons Act.

Advice was received from the Chief Secretary that part one of the first schedule of the Poisons Act had been amended by adding:—

1. 3-Methoxy-N-Methylmorphinan, also known as dextromethorphan levomethorphan, and racemethorphan.
2. 3-hydroxy-N-Methylmorphinan, also known as NU-2206, Dromoran and methorphan.
3. N-Allylnormorphine, also known as "Nalline" Hydrochloride.

Amendments to the Victorian D.D. Regulations were received.

The meeting closed at 11.30 p.m.

## COMMONWEALTH

### PERSONAL and GENERAL

#### PHARMACY BOARD OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY.

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council has approved of the appointment under the Pharmacy Ordinance 1931-1937 of the following persons as members of the Pharmacy Board of the Australian Capital Territory:—

Charles Peter Thomson.  
Basil Richard Roberts.  
George Gilbert Jewkes.  
—(Ex. Min. No. 333.)

EARLE PAGE,  
for Minister of State for the Interior.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council has approved of the appointment of Dr. Henry Erskine Downes as Acting Director-General of Health and Acting Director of Quarantine during the absence from Australia of Dr. A. J. Metcalfe.

—(Ex. Min. No. 35.)

EARLE PAGE,  
Minister of State for Health.

#### MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.

The following notifications appeared in the Commonwealth Gazette of May 17:—

**Royal Australian Army Medical Corps.**—First Military District, Ernest James Wilson and Jack Cameron Tillyer to be Honorary Lieutenants, April 13, 1953.

**R.A.A.F.**—The following former officer is appointed to a commission with the rank of Flying Officer.—D. B. McKillop (024158), October 31, 1952.

The following Air Cadets are provisionally appointed to commissions with the rank of Pilot Officer:—

No. A24208, Stuart William Burns (024208), No. A24537, Terrence John Murphy (024537), February 28, 1953.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

### PERSONAL and GENERAL

State  
News

*"Please ye we may contrive this afternoon, and do as  
adversaries do in law—*

*Strive mightily, but eat and drink as friends."*

—Shakespeare.

Mr. A. Rabin has purchased Fitzgerald's pharmacy at 484 Old South Head road, Rose Bay.

Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Hall will attend the First Annual Pharmacy Ball at Newcastle on August 6.

Mr. Eric E. Morris, of 307 High street, Maitland, is en route for Great Britain aboard the R.M.S. "Orion."

Mr and Mrs. K. E. Thomas spent their holiday in the Blue Mountains.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Jordan visited Grafton on holidays.

Mr. K. J. Wilkinson has entered upon business at 106 Nelson street, Fairfield.

Mr. Clifford B. Vaughan has acquired the pharmacy of Mr. J. D. Greentree, Gosford road, The Entrance.

Mrs. M. D. Mant has opened a pharmacy at 56 New South Head road, Vaucluse.

Mr. B. J. Johnson has purchased Mr. Hollingsworth's pharmacy at 22 Delwood street, South Granville.

Mr. C. J. Earnshaw has opened a pharmacy at 1045 Victoria road, West Ryde.

Mr. Neville Dean, late of Cessnock, has opened a pharmacy at 206 George street, Windsor.

Mr. F. N. Collocott has opened a pharmacy at 395 Concord road, Concord West.

Mr. F. C. Rogers is opening a pharmacy at the corner of Church and Phillip streets, Parramatta.

Mr. Noel E. Bourne has opened a pharmacy at East Gresford, 25 miles from Maitland, in the Paterson River District.

Mr. M. G. Shore, of Parke Davis & Co. Ltd., will attend the 20th Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference.

Mr. Eric Scott, Federal President of the Guild, and Mr. T. B. Evans, Federal Secretary, recently paid an important business visit to Sydney.

Mr. Edgar Rouse (Kodak (A'asia) Pty. Ltd.) recently visited Sydney, where he conferred with Mr. E. G. Hall on matters relative to the 20th Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference.

Mr. O. C. V. Legge (Federal Delegate) and Mr. W. F. Pigerua (Treasurer, N.S.W. Branch, F.P.S. Guild) journeyed to Melbourne during May—upon Guild business bent.

Mr. Eric Scott, Federal President of the Guild, is making a tour of the Guild Zones in N.S.W. He will visit Lismore, Tamworth, Newcastle, Goulburn, Wollongong, Katoomba and Bathurst. Mr. Scott will be attended by two members of the N.S.W. State Branch Committee.

A welcome visitor to Sydney (on holidays) is Mr. A. N. C. Munro, of Lowood, Queensland, who is a member of the Queensland State Branch Committee. He tells the story of a man who was like the Jersey cow—"gives a full bucket of milk and then kicks it over."

Professor Thorp, accompanied by the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, Mr. E. G. Hall, attended a meeting of the Mid-Northern Pharmacists' Association, Newcastle, on May 7. Notwithstanding torrential rain the attendance was maximal again.

Mr. R. E. Gostelow, General Manager of the Wholesale Drug Co. Ltd., has been re-elected a Councillor of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries (N.S.W. Division) and Vice-Chairman of that division for the current year. He has also been re-elected as a Councillor of

the New South Wales Lawn Tennis Association for 1953-4. Mr. Gostelow has been actively associated with both these bodies for many years past.

### MEAT DYE.

Regulation 3, made under the Meat Industry Act, 1915-1952, has been amended in connection with the branding of meat.

The Regulation now reads:—

"The brand shall be applied by a stamp wetted with a stain made up of dilute acetic acid and glycerine, to which is added an edible dye to produce a reddish colour."

### ENGLISH TAKE MORE MEDICINE.

LONDON.—More medicine is now being dispensed under the National Health Service than before the Government imposed the shilling-a-prescription levy.

Mr. R. A. Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who believed the levy would cut Health Service costs when it was introduced last year, has been shocked by the latest official returns.

These show that more than 20 million prescriptions were issued by Health Services' doctors in December last, compared with 17½ in December, 1951. — "The Sun," 28/4/53.

### COUNTRY GOSSIP.

After 40 years with the United Pure-Bred Dairy Cattle Breeders' Association of N.S.W., Mr. H. D. B. Cox has resigned as treasurer of that organisation. At a recent meeting the Association recorded in its minutes its appreciation of his services and appointed him an honorary councillor. Mr. Cox has rendered yeoman service, not only to the Association, but to the whole dairying industry for this long period. His advice and assistance have always been freely given, and it has been of great value to breed societies and other organisations representing dairying interests. Mr. Cox is a specialist on the scientific side of dairy cattle breeding and has been high in the councils of the Australian Jersey Herd Society for a long period. On financial matters, too, his advice and help has been much appreciated.—"The Farmer and Settler."

### FREE DRUG ORDERS IN DEMAND.

In the last three years more than 20 million prescriptions for free, life-saving drugs had been filled throughout Australia, the Federal Health Minister (Sir Earle Page) said at a meeting in Queensland on April 27, reports "The Daily Mirror."

Under his health scheme, more than 4 million pensioners had received medical services, he said, and free life-saving drugs worth more than £1 million were being distributed in Queensland each year.

Sir Earle Page said that distribution of tuberculosis drugs in Australia was the most generous in the world. In Queensland there was an annual grant of £2 million.

The Labour Government, said Sir Earle, tried to introduce a health scheme, but all it did was antagonise doctors and dentists.

It provided no medical benefits for the community, and gave no medical treatment to pensioners.

### DISCUSSION ON THALLIUM.

"About 100 pathologists, analytical chemists and C.I.B. detectives met behind closed doors at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital last night to discuss available data on thallium poison. They hoped to find an antidote to thallium. The meeting lasted for more than two hours.

"Among those who attended were the City Coroner, Mr. E. J. Forrest, the president of the pathological section of the B.M.A., Dr. V. J. McGovern, the Government Analyst, Dr. H. B. Taylor, Detective-Sergeant D. Fergusson, and Detective F. Krahe." — "The Sydney Morning Herald," 29/4/53.



## NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

### Forty-six Persons Poisoned with Thallium Since March, 1952.

On April 27 the Government Analyst, Dr. H. B. Taylor, said that 10 people had died and 36 others had been admitted to hospital in N.S.W. as a result of thallium poisoning since March, 1952.

#### Thallium—Tl. 204.39 (At. No. 81).

Thallium was isolated by Sir Wm. Crookes in 1861, from the blue dust formed in the manufacture of sulphuric acid from iron pyrites. He named it thallium or green branch because he first noticed it by the green line in the spectroscopic.

Thallium compounds are extremely poisonous, causing toxic gastro enteritis and falling out of the hair. It is tasteless. A cumulative poison, it acts slowly, but surely.

#### NATIONAL HEALTH BILL, 1953.

The supply of drugs and medicines to persons undergoing medical treatment is an integral part of that treatment, and, because of the high cost of recently-developed drugs and their potency, particularly the antibiotic group, the cost of treatment can be most burdensome. For this reason life-saving drugs are being provided free under the pharmaceutical benefits scheme to all persons. In addition, pensioners receive a full range of medicines, free of charge, simply on the prescription of their doctor.

A further provision now authorises the supply of drugs to patients under emergency conditions direct by the doctor, who normally carries a limited category of emergency drugs in his bag. It has been found by experience that chemists are often closed when drugs are required for the treatment of sick people, and, therefore, when a doctor visits a patient he must have drugs in his bag for emergency treatment. Provision is made in this measure for the first time in this respect. Thus, the pharmaceutical benefits scheme provided in this Bill is most comprehensive and covers all those cases where it is desirable in the patient's interest that the drug should be provided under this scheme.

Here again, because the scheme is free, it is susceptible to abuse, and special care has been taken to ensure close supervision of the drugs provided and of the participation in the scheme of the medical and pharmaceutical professions. Committees of inquiry, some of which have already been in operation for several months, are being established with the full co-operation of the professions concerned, and these committees are giving the Government the best advice available to guide the operation of this scheme and to ensure that wastage is kept to a minimum and that the most efficient use is made of valuable drugs.—(Hansard, March 27, 1953.)

#### THE NEW SOUTH WALES UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY.

##### School of Applied Chemistry.

The following post-graduate courses will be offered during second and third terms of the 1953 session:—

##### Recent Advances in Organic Chemistry

held on Wednesdays at 4.30 p.m., commencing June 3, fee £1/1/-, and

**Surface Chemistry and its Industrial Applications** commencing September 11.

These lectures, which follow the course in "Modern Techniques in Analytical Chemistry" given in first term, will be of a general nature and will not be accompanied by a practical course. They are planned to help chemists in industry and post-graduate students to keep abreast with the rapid developments in all branches of chemistry. It is hoped to provide in the future courses of a

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## NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

more intensive and specialised nature for those who wish to pursue selected subjects more deeply.

Further details can be obtained from Dr. G. W. K. Cavill (Tel. M 0422, Ext. 356). Applications accompanied by remittance should be addressed to the Registrar, N.S.W. University of Technology, Broadway, N.S.W. An admission ticket will be sent to applicant on receipt of remittance. Lectures will be held in Room 414, 4th Floor, Chemistry Building.

The programme of lectures for the series "Recent Advances in Organic Chemistry" is as follows (all dates are Wednesdays):—

Date.	Subject.	Lecturer.
June.		
3—	Recent Advances in Chemo-therapy.	G. Shaw, B.Sc., Ph.D. (Lond.), Senior Lecturer in Organic Chemistry, N.S.W. University of Technology.
10—	Recent Advances in Chemo-therapy.	G. Shaw.
17—	Chemical Structure and Insecticidal Activity.	D. Ford, A.S.T.C., A.A.C.I., Technical Manager, Taubman's Chemicals Pty. Ltd., Villawood.
24—	Newer Steroidal Hormones.	W. J. Dunstan, M.Sc. (Syd.), Lecturer in Organic Chemistry, N.S.W. University of Technology.
July.		
1—	Newer Steroidal Hormones.	W. J. Dunstan.
8—	Modern Aspects of Stereochemistry.	R. M. Gascoigne, M.Sc. (Syd.), Ph.D. (Liv.), Lecturer in Organic Chemistry, N.S.W. University of Technology.
15—	Modern Aspects of Stereochemistry.	R. M. Gascoigne.
22—	Recent Advances in Carbohydrate Chemistry.	S. J. Angyal, Ph.D. (Bud.), Assoc. Professor of Organic Chemistry, N.S.W. University of Technology.
29—	Newer Organic Oxidation Reactions.	G. W. K. Cavill, M.Sc. (Syd.), Ph.D. (Liv.), Senior Lecturer in Organic Chemistry, N.S.W. University of Technology.
August.		
5—	Some Modern Ideas on Reaction Mechanisms.	S. J. Angyal.

### REPORT ON LECTURE BY PROFESSOR R. H. THORP TO THE MID-NORTHERN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION, HELD AT MANUFACTURERS' HOUSE, NEWCASTLE.

In spite of very inclement weather and drenching rain, 30 pharmacists and apprentices attended on May 7 to hear the second of the professor's lectures on "Physiology of the Blood and Anticoagulants."

The President of the Mid-Northern Pharmacists' Association, opening the meeting, introduced the new President of the Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W., Mr. E. G. Hall, who was making his first official country visit since assuming that office. He then asked Mr. Hall if he would take the chair and reintroduce Professor Thorp to the gathering.

Mr. Hall, in reply, thanked the Mid-Northern Pharmacists' Association for its congratulatory messages on his election and assured all those present that it was for him a great pleasure to come to Newcastle, where the enthusiasm of the Zone was so well known. He then

introduced the professor who, as usual, held the audience in close attention whilst he delivered a delightful non-technical lecture (followed by a question period) on the above subject matter.

At the conclusion of the lecture, moving a vote of thanks, Mr. J. David, Ph.C., said that it was a great pleasure and an education to have had another such lecture, and he suggested that the Society could possibly introduce these as a more regular feature. Mr. S. B. Morris seconded Mr. David's remarks.

Mr. Hall then gave a short talk on the importance of the forthcoming P.A.A.N.Z. Conference in Sydney and assured all present that this was an event to look forward to. He urged the Mid-Northern Pharmacists' Association at its next meeting to appoint an accredited representative to the Conference.

Closing the meeting, Mr. DeFina made the following announcements:—

1. The Mid-Northern Pharmacists' Association's next monthly meeting will be held on May 20, at which he would make a very important announcement of vital interest to all pharmacists in the north.

2. Combined Guild-Society visit on June 21.

3. July lecture by Mr. S. E. Wright, Sydney University.

4. August 6, First Annual Pharmacy Ball, which Mr. E. G. Hall, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W., had graciously promised to attend as patron.

5. September lecture and film night by Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. (Aust.) Ltd.

6. Subscriptions were now due.

#### POISONS ACT, 1952 — REGULATIONS.

His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to make the subjoined Regulations under the provisions of the Poisons Act, 1952.

M. O'SULLIVAN,  
Minister for Health.

#### Definitions.

1. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires — "Committee" means the Poisons Advisory Committee.

#### Poisons Advisory Committee and Its Meetings.

2. Meetings of the Committee shall be called, when necessary, at the direction of the Chairman, or, in his absence, the Senior Medical Officer of Health.

3. At least seven days' notice shall be given to each member of the date of a meeting.

4. Every notice summoning a meeting shall be accompanied by short particulars of the business to be presented at the meeting for which the notice is being given.

5. The number of members who shall constitute a quorum of the Committee shall be eight.

6. Every motion before a meeting shall be seconded before being discussed.

7. Every question submitted to a meeting shall be decided on the voices unless a show of hands is demanded by any member or members, in which case the show of hands shall be taken without further discussion.

—N.S.W. Government Gazette, No. 80, April 24, 1953; page 1331.

#### POISONS ACT, 1952.

#### Members of the Poisons Advisory Committee.

The Governor-in-Council has been pleased to approve of the appointment of the undermentioned as Members of the Poisons Advisory Committee, constituted under the provisions of the Poisons Act, 1952, for a period of three years from April 1, 1953:—

Professor R. H. Thorp, representing the University of Sydney.

Dr. G. C. Smith, representing the University of Sydney.

Dr. A. W. Morrow, representing the British Medical Association, N.S.W. Branch.

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## NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

Mr. J. L. Townley, representing the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

Mr. W. A. Patterson, representing the Sydney Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. R. B. Scammell, representing the Chamber of Manufactures of New South Wales.

Mr. R. C. Gibson, representing agricultural and pastoral organisations.

Dr. E. R. Magnus, representing the Australian Dental Association, N.S.W. Branch.

Mr. O. C. V. Leggo, representing the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild of Australia, N.S.W. Branch.

Mr. P. B. Howell, representing the Country Traders' Association of New South Wales.

The undermentioned officers are also ex-officio members of such Committee:—

Dr. H. G. Wallace, Director-General of Public Health (Chairman).

Dr. C. J. Cummins, Deputy Director-General of Public Health and Senior Medical Officer of Health.

Dr. H. B. Taylor, Senior Analyst, Department of Public Health.

Dr. H. C. Belschner, Chief Veterinary Surgeon, Department of Agriculture.

M. O'SULLIVAN,  
Minister for Health.

—(N.S.W. Government Gazette, No. 75, April 17, 1953; page 1238.)

The Governor-in-Council has been pleased to approve of the appointment of Mr. L. Johnstone, representing agricultural and pastoral organisations, as a Member of the Poisons Advisory Committee, **vice Mr. R. C. Gibson.**

M. O'SULLIVAN,  
Minister for Health.

### THE BLUE MOUNTAINS PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION.

First Annual Report, 15/4/1953.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In presenting the first annual report of The Blue Mountains Pharmacists' Association, I do so with a firm conviction that the re-formation of this organisation has been amply justified and that we have achieved many things of a progressive and worthwhile nature.

In September we lost our Secretary, Mr. Sourry, because of his departure from this town. Mr. Sourry did an excellent job in his few months of office, but he has been most ably succeeded by Mr. Holt, who was elected in his stead.

In May we enjoyed an informal visit to our monthly meeting by Mr. Keith Thomas, former State President of the Guild. Mr. Thomas spoke to us at some length on several matters of common interest.

In August we decided to try and arrange a visit by one of the Sydney University lecturers. This resulted in a most interesting and informative address some weeks later at the Katoomba Golf Club House by Mr. S. Wright, of the Department of Pharmacy. The title of the address was "The Handling and Formulation of Some of the Modern Drugs." Mr. Wright was accompanied by Mr. Cartwright, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, who also spoke. Those present as our guests included several pharmacists from Lithgow and Penrith, some of them with their wives.

Last month, through the courtesy and co-operation of Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. (Aust.) Ltd., a programme of films of special interest to pharmacists was screened at the Katoomba Golf Club House. On this occasion also invitations were issued to the pharmacists of Lithgow and Penrith, as well as to our wives and selected personal friends. The films were excellent and, despite bad weather, the audience numbered 28.

The following list, not intended to be complete, indicate some of the problems discussed and decisions arrived at at our several meetings during the year:—

Marking and coding of prescriptions.

Retail prices of many drugs, preparations, sundries and services.

Errors, omissions and anomalies in regard to published Guild prices.

The addition of freight charges to the price of baby foods.

Allowance to customers for empty bottles returned.

The omission by some prescribers of the patient's name and address on D.D. prescriptions.

Discussion with Kodak about their developing and printing service.

Protest to Frederick Stearns & Co. re reduced profit margins on Nyal lines.

Protest to Hillcastles re inadequate profit margin on Peggy Sage preparations.

Protest to Potter & Moore re price reduction without notice of some of their lines.

Protest about the distribution to doctors (and subsequently by doctors to their patients) of samples of "prescription proprietaries" containing drugs.

In January the Constitution was altered to permit pharmacists at Lithgow and Penrith to join our Association.

As President I have had the complete loyalty of the three other office-bearers—Mr. Arnold (Vice-President), Mr. Holt (Secretary) and Mr. Neville Greenwell (Treasurer). I wish to thank these gentlemen for their support.

In conclusion I should like to express appreciation to all members for the spirit of friendliness, tolerance and co-operation which has characterised our meetings. This spirit has made my task easier and has set a pattern which should go far to ensure the success of our future activities.—(Signed) J. J. BUCKLEY.

#### MEETING OF ALBURY PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The Albury Pharmacists' Association met in the Auditorium, Dean street, Albury, on April 27, at 8 p.m.

**Present.**—Miss M. Cross (Albury), Messrs. D. Nicholson (North Albury), A. Bryan (Albury), H. E. Rowe (Albury), J. Friedlieb (Albury), F. Willson White (Albury), A. Denison (Albury), S. Harvie (Vic.), A. E. Wilmot (Corowa), C. H. Lewis (Corowa), McNeill (Corowa), Dow (Vic.), McSwiney (Vic.), Keogh (Vic.), D. Felton (Albury).

In the absence of the President, Mr. C. Lillyman, owing to ill-health, the Vice-President, Mr. F. Willson White, occupied the chair.

The Chairman welcomed Messrs. Pinerua, Fegent and Conolly to Albury, and requested Mr. Fegent to address the meeting.

Mr. Fegent conveyed the good wishes of the Society President (Mr. E. G. Hall) to the meeting, mentioning it was the Society's first visit to Albury. He outlined some of the functions and activities of the Society.

**Science Group.**—This group dealt with technical problems, said Mr. Fegent. In the March 1953 issue of the "A.J.P." appeared a report of a meeting of the Science Group, which gave an indication of the type of problem referred to the group. Mr. Fegent asked members to refer their problems to the Secretary. They would receive prompt attention.

**Twentieth Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference.**—The Secretary gave all relevant particulars of the Conference to be held in Sydney commencing August 11.

**Questions.**—Mr. Nicholson: "Could your Science Group provide details and instructions for the dispensing of eyedrops?"

Mr. Fegent mentioned a meeting between Council representatives and representatives of the ophthalmologists, to ascertain exactly what they mean in the writing of certain prescriptions, which would then be dispensed in the same manner in Albury, Broken Hill, etc.



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## NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

A meeting could also take place with the skin specialists regarding ointment bases, etc.

Mr. Nicholson: "Could Mr. Wright give us details of the methods now taught at the moment?"

Mr. Fegent: "I shall ask Mr. Wright."

**Drugs Not Included in the 1953 B.P.**—Mr. Wilmot: "Certain drugs formerly in the B.P. have been omitted from the 1953 edition. Thus they will be no longer P.M.S. benefits when the 1953 B.P. comes into force. This will cause endless confusion and loss to chemists. Can the deleted drug be included in the A.P.F., and then the A.P.F. be accepted under the P.M.S. scheme? Will you ask Sir Earle Page to do this?" (Matter noted for reference.)

Mr. Lewis: "Could a Victorian doctor write a script for a drug under the new Poisons Act?"

The Secretary: "The N.S.W. Poisons Act is based on the Victorian Act, and no doubt reciprocal arrangements could be made if the regulations deem it necessary."

The Chairman asked Mr. Pinerua to speak.

Mr. Pinerua: "I thank you each and every one for attending, but I am disappointed there is not a 100 per cent. attendance by pharmacists from the City of Albury. You are the Guild! The upsurging strength of the Guild lies in its loyal individual membership. You are the Guild. We on the State Branch Committee are working on your behalf." Mr. Pinerua said he would not occupy precious time by impassioned peroration, but would close his remarks so as to give more time for questions.

**New P.B. Bill.**—The meeting then perused the new P.B. Bill.

**D.D. Tariff.**—Mr. Nicholson: "Could you print the new dispensing fees in the D.D. Tariff?" (Noted.) "Lic. Picis Carb. is not in the D.D. Tariff." (Noted.)

Mr. Friedlieb: "Under P.M.S. can you claim two D.D. fees if there are two D.Ds. in a script?" (Answer: Yes.)

Mr. Willson White: "We are deeply grateful to these gentlemen of official pharmacy here tonight. For some years we were neglected, and at one time asked for affiliation with Victoria. Since then we have had quite a deal of attention. We are grateful to you, gentlemen, you have given us food for thought. We would like you, Mr. Fegent, to convey our best wishes to Mr. Hall, and likewise to the President of the Guild. Every pharmacist is better off, due to the Guild's activities. But for the Guild we would have been pushed under. We must give the Guild our loyal support, in action as well as in money."

The Chairman asked Mr. Wilmot to support his remarks.

Mr. Wilmot: "It is indeed a long way for people to come here from Sydney. Mr. Les. Smith started the rot, which has continued ever since. There is no more charming a man than Mr. Smith. One other thing: do keep on with the A.P.F.—make it bigger and better."

"Without the Guild we would have been nowhere. Under the Bruce-Page National Health Scheme we were offered 1/6 per script."

Mr. Fegent and Mr. Pinerua then responded briefly, and the meeting drew to a close.

### ZONE MEETING AT WAGGA WAGGA.

A meeting of the Riverina and South-West Zone was held in the Chamber of Commerce rooms, Fitzmaurice street, Wagga Wagga, on April 26, at 11.30 a.m.

**Present.**—Messrs. A. W. Loch (Wagga), C. N. Small (Wagga), L. J. Kennedy (Wagga), T. R. Harrison (Wagga), R. P. Larkin (Wagga), C. R. Glass (Temora), C. H. Todd (Temora), J. McDonough (Wagga), A. A. Dobbie (Cootamundra), A. S. Moye (Wagga), R. A. King (Wagga), G. A. R. Dinsmore (Cootamundra), M. H. Gissing (Wagga), E. A. Jerrems (Gundagai), N. C. Griffiths (Ganmain), Mrs. M. M. Hamill (Wagga).



**Representatives from Sydney.**—Mr. W. F. Pinerua (Guild), Mr. B. G. Fegent (Society) and the Secretary.

Opening the meeting the Zone Vice-President (Mr. A. A. Dobbie) extended a welcome to Messrs. Pinerua, Fegent and Conolly.

**The Late Harry Gissing.**—All present stood in silence for one minute, in memory of the late Henry Ernest Gissing, former Zone President.

**New Zone Members.**—Mr. Dobbie welcomed three new Zone members, Messrs. Maurice Gissing (Wagga), E. A. Jerrems (Gundagai) and N. C. Griffiths (Ganmain).

**Election of Zone Office-bearers.**—Mr. A. Loch, of Wagga Wagga, was elected as Zone President. (Applause.)

Taking the Chair, Mr. Loch said it was an honour to be elevated to the position. He would do his utmost to faithfully perform the duties of the office.

**Vice-Presidents.**—Messrs. A. A. Dobbie and C. R. Glass were unanimously elected.

**Zone Secretary.**—Mr. C. Small was re-elected by acclamation.

**Treasurer.**—Mr. Maurice Gissing.

**Pharmaceutical Society Matters.**—The Chairman called on Mr. Fegent to address the meeting.

Mr. Fegent apologised for the absence of the Society President (Mr. E. G. Hall), who conveyed his thanks to those assembled for their help over the years.

Mr. Fegent referred with feeling to the loss which the Society experienced at the passing of the late Zone President, Harry Gissing.

"This is the first Society meeting at Wagga," said Mr. Fegent, "and there are a number of points I should like to make, briefly and pithily."

He referred to the splendid membership coverage, the Society's stand on matters of professional conduct, its policy on education, the Science Group, the A.P.F., library and other phases of Society interest.

**Twentieth Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference.**—The Secretary detailed the exhaustive arrangements in train for the Conference, which would be opened on Tuesday, August 11, at 8 p.m. in the Great Hall of the University of Sydney.

It was most earnestly desired that the Zone should appoint a delegate to attend the Conference.

Mr. Loch said he was pleased to hear first hand of the Science Group. Members would avail themselves of its services in the solution of problems.

Mr. Glass (Temora): "How long will it take to get a reply to a query on a dispensing problem?"

The reply was: "Just as soon as investigations indicate the correct answer."

Mr. Griffiths (Ganmain): "Concerning refresher lectures, why don't you print them and send them out to country members, who have not the advantage of city people, who can always attend the lectures."

Mr. Fegent said it appeared impossible to persuade lecturers to provide edited typescript for printing. The job was a big one. However, lecturers were readily co-operating in a far better plan. They were attending country zone meetings in person for delivery of lectures.

Mr. Pinerua: "Can you give us any intimation when the new pharmacy course will be implemented?"

Mr. Fegent: "When the £150,000 is available. It is all a matter of finance."

Mr. Glass: "Are the chemists in Sydney desirous of having apprentices?"

Reply: "Their honest opinion is that they are not worth while. In the second and third years they are seldom in the pharmacy."

(Voice: "I wouldn't take an apprentice again.")

The Chairman asked Mr. Dobbie to move a vote of thanks to the Society.

Mr. Dobbie said it had been most interesting to listen to Mr. Fegent and hear details of the Society's endeavour.

"We must maintain academic interest or be branded as a lot of shopkeepers. We must be in a position to talk to governments as professional men."

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## NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

Mr. Dobbie concluded by saying he felt grateful to the Society for what it was doing. He knew that the Conference in August would be a good show.

Mr. Fegent said the Conference would not be all academic—the Guild, P.D.L., etc., would play a big part in proceedings. He assured the Zone Delegate an interesting time.

(At this point the meeting adjourned for lunch.)

**Guild Affairs.**—Mr. Pinerua said country visits would be in company with the Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W., the Society taking the morning session of the meeting and the Guild the longer afternoon period, as the Guild's affairs were diverse, complex and often difficult. With this joint representation it should be possible to answer all questions.

Mr. Pinerua expressed the sympathy of the State Branch Committee at the untimely loss of the late H. E. Gissing, whose career was an example which anyone might aspire to emulate.

Mr. Pinerua said the Guild's duties and responsibilities had grown to a prodigious extent over the past ten years particularly. He could stand up forever giving details; however, he preferred for Zone members to set the pace, to pose their problems in the form of questions.

The Secretary then spoke of taxation of goodwill, reading to the meeting the recent warning issued by P.D.L.

### "Re Goodwill and Taxation.

"The provisions of the amending legislation passed by the Commonwealth Parliament in 1952 are now in operation. It must be said, however, that the wording of the Act is too complicated for any layman to interpret.

"It is therefore most advisable that anyone who contemplates selling a pharmacy should consult a specialist in taxation, either a solicitor or an accountant recommended by the P.D.L., before signing a contract of sale.

"By working through the P.D.L. in such matters a member is assured of receiving the soundest possible advice from qualified persons who have a specialised knowledge of taxation in its application to pharmacy, and in particular as this applies to goodwill and leases."

The meeting then perused the new National Health Bill, paying particular attention to the clauses in Part VII—Pharmaceutical Benefits.

**Questions.**—The Chairman then invited questions.

**Hospital Dispensing by Interne.**—Mr. Kennedy inquired if the dispensing of another doctor's script could be carried out by an interne.

The Secretary inquired whether the hospital was "approved" to supply P.Bs. or not. Mr. Kennedy said he did not refer to P.B. scripts—ordinary scripts.

The Secretary said the Hospitals' Commission permitted hospital dispensing to be done by a pharmacist or a doctor, or persons under the direct supervision of either.

Mr. Kennedy: "That means if a doctor can dispense another doctor's script he can open a pharmacy?"

Voices: "No, no!"

**P.B.A. and P.M.S.**—A Member: "How are negotiations with the Government about P.B.? We got a letter from Melbourne on it. Has the Guild got any better payment for P.M.S.? The present payments are very low compared with Guild rates. We are losing on many P.M.S. scripts for dear items. Can better rates be got?"

Mr. Pinerua said discussions would proceed on P.B.A. and P.M.S. conditions of dispensing.

**Zone Freight Allowance.**—A member inquired when the Zone freight allowance was going to be increased from 1.04d. per script. When he made up his claim for 400 scripts and got 34/8 for freight, he compared it with the heavy freight bill he paid to the railways and saw he "got almost nothing back." Nothing was allowed for cartage from rail to pharmacy.

Keen discussion took place on the matter of zone freight allowances.

Mr. Dobbie: "In the event of sera or vaccines specially

obtained, can we charge the patient for telegram, registered mail costs, etc.?"

A Voice: "Stocks should be held."

Mr. Dobbie: "You can't hold stocks of calf lymph—smallpox vaccine—it is dated and has a short life."

A Voice: "It is a living organism."

**Recording of P.B.A. and P.M.S. Scripts.**—A member asked if there was a better system of recording these scripts than copying into a script book.

The opinion was expressed that there was no necessity to keep a script book at all; the duplicates could be filed.

**Prescription Proprietaries List—Indication of D.Ds.**—

Mr. Kennedy suggested that D.Ds. in the P.P. list should be distinguished by a particular symbol. This would facilitate ordering from the wholesaler. (To be noted for reference to the S.B.C.)

The Chairman said all showed the utmost appreciation of the Guild's visit to Wagga. From the perusal of the P.B. Bill he could see the marvellous job the Guild was doing for its members. Only by being behind the Guild could we stand firmly and strongly.

He asked Mr. Dinsmore to move a vote of thanks.

Mr. Dinsmore said he moved the vote of thanks with much pleasure. The meeting had been the most informative ever held in Wagga. It was well worth while coming to such conferences. (Continued applause.)

Responding, Mr. Pinerua said: "Thanks very much. If you're glad to have us we're glad to be with you. We act on your behalf. The strength of the Guild lies in individual membership. There is no other organisation in the world comparable with the Guild. We stand on our own feet and we do a good job." (Applause.)

**Delegate to 20th Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference.**—Mr. A. A. Dobbie, of Cootamundra, was appointed as Zone Delegate to the Conference.

The meeting then closed.

## PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

### Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W. met at Science House, Sydney, on May 5, there being present Messrs. E. G. Hall, J. L. Townley, A. F. Winterton, A. W. West, S. E. Wright, H. W. Read, J. F. Plunkett, K. A. Cartwright, B. G. Fegent, K. H. Powell and J. Shineberg.

**Presentation to Mr. L. W. Smith.**—Mr. Hall said he had received an invitation to attend the Farewell Dinner to Mr. Leslie W. Smith on the eve of his departure for abroad. The Executive had decided to make a small presentation to Mr. Smith—a diary lettered in gold. Mr. Smith very much appreciated the gift.

**Applications for membership** were approved as follows:—

**Full Members:** John William Bowie, Balmoral; Peter Eric Brake, Bowral; Ian Donald Cameron, Dunedin (N.Z.); William Keith Clinch, Roseville; Lewis Spencer Davis, Rose Bay; Patrick Kevin Joseph Fitzgerald, Lane Cove; Francis Joseph Koppman, Petersham; Ronald James Lovell, Waverley; Peter James Killalea, Sans Souci; Barbara Fay Mann, Mayfield; Brian Murray Osborne, Lismore; John Julley Pinerua, Balmain; Brian Thomas Roche, Earlwood; John Murray Tuck, Ryde; and Aaron Edward Ward, Mosman.

**Advancements to Full Membership:** Peter Andrews, Corimal; Colin Frederick Barnes, Croydon; Richard Lonsdale Brand, Manly; Mrs. Elizabeth Helen Conroy, Richmond (Surrey, England); Kenneth Edward Dane, Homebush; Noel Roderick Fraser, Penrith; John Denis Maher, Strathfield; Kevin William Murphy, Clovelly; Robert Joseph Saunders, Penrith; and Andrew Alexander Wahrmann, Lindfield.

**Associates:** Joan Margaret Ashley, Lionel Rupert Fowler, Neil Mason Garling, Cecily Catherine Gilroy, Roy Stuart Hawthorne, Charles John Peoples, John Edward Reeves, Lance William Roper, Evan Bruce Spragg, James Dean Watson, James Joseph Collins, William Kull and Bruce David Morris.

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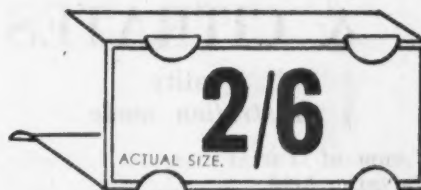
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## NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

### Country Visits 1953:

**Meeting of Mid-Northern Pharmacists' Association, Newcastle, to be held on May 7:** It was mentioned that the President, Mr. E. G. Hall, would accompany Professor Thorp to Newcastle.

**Visits to Wagga, April 26, and to Albury, April 27:** Mr. Fegent said that both meetings had been highly successful and very enjoyable. Two reports of a comprehensive nature were laid on the table in respect of the two visits. The suggestion had been made that Mr. Wright should provide information on the dispensing of eye drops.

Mr. Read said that the new A.P.F. would contain details.

**Visit to Wollongong, May 25:** Mr. Fegent inquired who would be going to Wollongong.

Mr. Powell said he would be attending, also Mr. Hall, Mr. Plunkett and possibly Mr. Winterton.

**Visit to Gosford, June 20—Formation of a New Zone:** Messrs. Hall and Little.

**Visit to Newcastle, June 21:** Messrs. Hall and Little.

**City and Suburban Meetings.**—After discussion, it was decided to commence the organisation of joint Society-Guild meetings in two areas, the Western Suburbs and the Eastern Suburbs, organisation being entrusted to Messrs. K. A. Cartwright and H. W. Read respectively.

It was suggested that lecturers should be taken to the meetings and also films provided for screening.

**1953 Lecture Series.**—It was resolved that unregistered staff should be permitted to attend the lectures, and that this should be published in the Guild Service Bulletin with the words "Show this to your staff."

**First Year Apprentices Lectures 1953.**—Mr. Hall said the lectures commenced that morning (May 5). Mr. Cutler, Mr. Townley and Mr. Little had addressed the apprentices. Lectures were commenced on this occasion by Mr. Cliff. Gostelow.

**Annual Dinner 1953.**—The Secretary said that Mrs. Barnes had verbally confirmed the booking at "Florida House" for June 17.

**A.P.F. Revision Committee.**—Mr. Wright said that two lots of sheets were now in circulation. Mr. Read would co-ordinate matters pertaining to revision of the uncorrected typescript.

**P.A.A.N.Z. Conference.**—Mr. Hall said that a meeting of the Conference Executive Committee had been held at Science House on April 21. The P.A.A.N.Z. Executive in Melbourne wanted to extend the conference for an extra day. However, the Stawell Hall could not be obtained for an extra day. At night it was proposed to hold an open Guild meeting.

**Adelaide Conference.**—The report of the Conference was laid on the table. To be put on the agenda for next month.

**Proposed Meeting of Medico-Pharmaceutical Liaison Committee.**—Mr. Hall said the new B.P. had arrived. There was no provision in State law for fixing a date on which it should come into operation. He suggested that this point should be discussed with the B.M.A.

It was decided to call a meeting of the Medico-Pharmaceutical Liaison Committee as soon as possible.

**Correspondence.**—P.A.A.N.Z., re Sydney Conference. Advising remits must be received not later than May 1. Already dealt with.

**A.N.Z.A.A.S., Circular No. 1, March, 1953.** The 30th meeting to be held in Canberra, January 13 to 20, 1954. It was resolved that the President and Vice-President should be the Society's delegates to the Canberra Conference, and that arrangements for their accommodation be made through the A.N.Z.A.A.S. at Canberra.

Mr. K. E. Thomas, Hon. Treasurer, Pharmaceutical Nutritional Bureau, advising the Bureau has not been functioning for some years, and asking the Society to hold the Bureau's funds (£24/12/3) in trust for the time being. It was resolved to hold the sum of £24/12/3 in trust for the Pharmaceutical Nutritional Bureau.

Mr. D. J. Clinch, Woolgoolga, asking if copies of 1953 lecture series will be available.

Mr. R. H. Young, Canterbury, asking if unregistered assistants can attend the lecture series, as the subjects are of greater interest to unregistered staff than to registered pharmacists. It was decided that unregistered assistants should be eligible to attend the 1953 lecture series.

To Mr. Ivan J. Thompson, congratulating him upon election as President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria.

**General Business.**—Mr. Hall said that Mr. Bob Crawford, of Johnson & Johnson Pty. Ltd., had now been appointed as a Director of that company. A letter had been sent congratulating him on his new appointment.

Mr. Hall referred to the death of the father of Mr. R. C. Tottenham. It was decided to send a letter of sympathy to Mr. R. C. Tottenham and also to his mother.

**Library.**—Mr. Read called attention to the excellent condition of the library, and demonstrated the card system that had been introduced. The books had also been re-labelled. It was decided to convey the thanks of the Council to Miss Brewer and the other young ladies for their precise work in connection with the library.

Mr. Fegent said there should be a list of books provided not only for the zones but for the main country centres.

It was decided to obtain quotations for the printing of the list of library books.

Mr. Cartwright said he had re-covered the bound volumes of the "A.J.P." dating from the first issue of the Federal journal. It was decided to restore them to their place in the library.

Mr. Fegent said that the curriculum of the Institute of Chiropodists had been approved by the B.M.A. A young pharmacist had given a lecture to chiropodists on ointment bases.

The meeting terminated at 11 p.m.

## THE GUILD

**S.B.C.  
Meeting**

Abridged report of meeting of the State Branch Committee of the N.S.W. Branch of the Guild, held at "Science House," Sydney, on May 14, when there were present: Messrs. J. Little, W. F. Pinerua, R. K. Strang, R. W. Feller, R. S. Leece, W. G. Sapsford, O. C. V. Leggo, C. D. Bradford and L. M. Fox.

**Welcome to Mr. Neil Munro, Lowood, Qld.**—Mr. Little extended a welcome to Mr. Munro, a member of the State Branch Committee of Queensland. Mr. Munro said he was pleased to be present. He was down in Sydney on a holiday. He was a man who called a spade a shovel—he would not allow the Guild to run his business, but when it came to Federal matters we must co-operate.

**P.A.A.N.Z. Conference, Sydney, August, 1953:**

(a) **Remits.**—It was resolved that a joint meeting with the Executive of the Pharmaceutical Society on the subject of remits be held as soon as possible.

(b) **Proposed Open Guild Meeting, Thursday, August 20.**—It was resolved to write to the Federal President, instructing him that it is the desire of the New South Wales State Branch Committee that discussion at the open Guild meeting be retained on a Federal level and that State matters should not be discussed.

It was further resolved to make a reservation at Federation House or elsewhere for the open Guild meeting.

**Tour of N.S.W. Zones by Federal President, Mr. Eric Scott.**—The Federal President, Mr. Scott, has been approached to make a tour of the N.S.W. Zones. He had agreed to do so. His tour would be undertaken to reassess pharmacists' opinions concerning the P.B.A. and P.M.S. schemes. He would also deal with the finance for Guild House, Melbourne, proportion necessary to be subscribed by Guild members.

Mr. Pinerua produced the itinerary which he had prepared. It had been approved by Mr. Scott.

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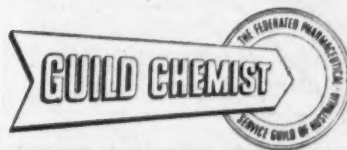
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## NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

It was decided that the members of the Federal party should be accompanied by State representatives as follows:—

**Visit to Lismore, Tamworth and Newcastle.**—Messrs. J. Little and W. F. Pinerua.

**Visit to Katoomba and Bathurst.**—Messrs. R. K. Strang and K. E. Thomas.

**Visit to Goulburn and Wollongong.**—Messrs. J. Little and W. G. Sapsford.

**Visit to Wagga Wagga.**—Messrs. O. C. V. Leggo and C. D. Bradford.

**Sydney Meeting.**—The Sydney meeting was planned for Friday, June 12, at 8 p.m.

It was decided to engage a hall for that night and also to obtain the services of a shorthand writer if possible.

**Meeting at Wangaratta, May 30.**—It was decided to write to Mr. Friedlieb, of the Albury Pharmacists' Association, acquainting him of the meeting.

It was further decided to send the itinerary to the Secretary of the Victorian State Branch, asking him to inform Mr. Friedlieb of the venue of the Wangaratta meeting.

### Country Visits:

(a) **Visits to Wagga and Albury.**—Reports had been circulated to the committee.

(b) **Visit to Wollongong, May 25.**—Messrs. R. S. Leece, L. M. Fox, and possibly C. D. Bradford, signified they would visit Wollongong. The secretary would also attend.

(c) **Visit to Gosford, June 20 (form new zone).**—Mr. Little and the secretary to attend.

(d) **Visit to Newcastle, June 21 (daytime).**—Mr. J. Little and the secretary to attend.

**Retiring Committeemen.**—It was mentioned that Messrs. C. D. Bradford, R. W. Feller, R. S. Leece, O. C. V. Leggo, W. G. Sapsford and R. K. Strang would retire this year in accordance with the rules.

**Election: Nominations—Rule 20 (i)**—onerous requirements. The secretary quoted the rule reading as follows:—

"(i) Nominations for election to the State Branch Committee shall be called for by the State Secretary, by letter, to each member of the State Branch, accompanied by a form of nomination paper, and no nomination papers will be recognised unless they contain the signature of the nominee for election together with the signatures of two members of the State Branch, supporting such nomination. The dates of closing of nominations shall be fixed by the State Branch Committee, provided that such date shall not be less than four weeks prior to the date of the proposed election."

**Federal Delegate's Report: Special Meeting of Building Committee.**—Mr. Leggo said that Mr. Pinerua had accompanied him to a special meeting of the Building Committee held in Melbourne.

It was resolved that upon hearing the report of Messrs. Leggo and Pinerua prepared as an outcome of the Building Committee meeting held on May 5 in Melbourne, this State Branch Committee agrees wholeheartedly to support the effort to obtain the necessary finance for the Guild Building.

**New Members Elected.**—Noel Edward Bourne, East Gresford; Frank Nicholas Collocott, Concord West; Neville Dean, Windsor; Charles James Earnshaw, West Ryde; Brian John Johnson, South Granville; Edmund Herbert Lawler, Boorowa; Mrs. Marion Dora Mant, Vaucluse; Frederick Clyde Rogers, Parramatta; Clifford Bruce Vaughan, The Entrance; and Kenneth James Wilkinson, Fairfield.

**Reinstatement.**—T. W. Hollingsworth, Collaroy Plateau.

**Uncompleted Portion of Agenda.**—It was agreed that the portion of the agenda which had not been dealt with should be referred to a meeting of the Executive, to be held on May 19, at 10 a.m.

The meeting terminated at 11 p.m.



## VICTORIA

### PERSONAL and GENERAL

State  
News

**Mr. D. H. Sheffield** has been appointed manager of the West Gippsland U.F.S. Dispensary, which was opened at Warragul.

**Miss I. M. R. Blake** has been appointed manager of the pharmacy opened by Henry Francis & Co. in the Myer Emporium at Geelong.

**Lieutenant Edith Martin**, who has been with the Commonwealth forces in Japan, has indicated her intention of proceeding to Great Britain, where she will apply for registration with the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

**Mr. J. Kierns** has intimated that he will leave Melbourne on the "Australia" for London on June 3. He intends to spend about nine months in London and on the Continent.

Another Australian pharmacist visiting Great Britain is **Mrs. M. J. Miller**.

### MANAGERS AND RELIEVERS NOTIFIED. MAY LIST.

Reliever.	Chemist.
Aitchison, Mrs. V. . . . .	F. G. A. Long, Mont Albert
Allechin, Miss J. M. . . . .	Lloyd & Co., Geelong
Barker, Miss W. J. . . . .	R. F. Dodds, Camberwell
Barker, Miss W. J. . . . .	V. G. Morieson, Malvern
Barter, W. . . . .	J. V. Kennedy, Collins St., Melb.
Barter, W. . . . .	R. B. Billings, Kororoit
Bolger, Miss E. L. E. . . . .	C. H. M. Bennett, Balaclava
Bolger, Miss E. L. E. . . . .	Miss K. Patterson, Hartwell
Currie, D. R. . . . .	H. E. Matthews, Northcote
Currie, D. R. . . . .	Wellington Lee, Auburn
Darby, Mrs. . . . .	C. H. Gaunson, East Prahran
Darrouzet, H. J. . . . .	H. A. Braithwaite, Camberwell
Davies, H. E. . . . .	A. Portbury, Coburg
Eccleston (L. Evans), Mrs. . . . .	C. H. M. Bennett, Balaclava
Eddie, F. F. . . . .	Prahran-St. Kilda Disp.
Elder, Miss J. M. . . . .	C. P. Wood, Box Hill
Elder, Miss J. M. . . . .	E. G. Heriot, Moonee Ponds
Fulton, A. M. . . . .	Est. of R. H. Straker, Hawthorn
Gambetta, B. . . . .	Victor Pharmacy, Nth. Richmond
Gandolfo, S. . . . .	R. E. & R. A. Charles, Richmond
Herbert, A. L. . . . .	Ararat Dispensary
Hermiston, Mrs. . . . .	P. M. Balding, Mansfield
Hibberd, A. R. . . . .	G. T. Say, Benalla
Higgins, O. T. . . . .	K. A. Beynon, Bairnsdale
Holland, Miss V. N. . . . .	H. A. Ankerson, Caulfield
Holland, Miss V. N. . . . .	E. G. Heriot, Moonee Ponds
Holland, Miss V. N. . . . .	J. C. Dollman, U.F.S., Cheltenham
Howard, L. . . . .	W. R. Lumley, Chelsea
Howard, Miss . . . . .	L. G. Langsford, Stawell
Isaacs, H. J. . . . .	U.F.S. Dispensary, Glenhuntly
Isaacs, H. J. . . . .	Taylor's Pharmacy, Richmond
Jacobson, B. L. . . . .	Ballarat Base Hospital, Ballarat
Jacobson, B. L. . . . .	C. M. Pleasance, Prahran
Kelley, F. . . . .	L. M. Walker, Northcote
Kelley, F. . . . .	L. Hamon, Numurkah
Kelley, F. . . . .	R. de Forest, Collingwood
Keyte, W. J. . . . .	V. N. Carroll, Shepparton
Keyte, W. J. . . . .	E. S. Bradley, Melbourne
Keyte, W. J. . . . .	D. C. Tait, Melbourne
Keyte, W. J. . . . .	J. E. Clementson, East Preston
King, T. . . . .	H. M. Jones, Black Rock
King, T. . . . .	P. J. Winch, South Melbourne
King, T. . . . .	G. G. T. Hughes, Ormond

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The minimum direct cover with the insurance company is £1000, and includes (without payment of extra premium) cover against errors arising from the dispensing of veterinary prescriptions.

The P.D.L. year commences on October 1, and for those joining now the cost to a new member for fifteen months to September 30, 1954, is:

Entrance Fee . . . . .	£0 2 6
Annual Subscription . . . . .	12 6
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£23 0 0

\*For a pharmacy with three or fewer persons engaged, including the proprietor and message boys. For those with more than three persons engaged, the annual premium is calculated at the rate of 12/- per person, including message boys. Minimum annual premium for £1000 cover, £1/18/-. Rates for higher covers will be quoted on application.

For further particulars apply to Branch Secretaries:

**C. CARLISLE**, 63 Martin Place, Sydney.

**Miss D. BRIGHOUSE**, Drysdale's Chambers, 4 Wickham Street, Brisbane, Queensland.

**O. H. WALTER**, Churchill Building (1st Floor), 61-63 Gawler Place, Adelaide.

**F. W. AVENELL**, c/o Technical College, St. George's Terrace, Perth.

Or to: **T. G. ALLEN**, General Secretary, 360 Swanston Street, Melbourne.

## VICTORIA (Continued)

Reliever.	Chemist.
Krasenstein, L. . . . .	Ford & Co., Toorak
Lemmon, H. N. . . . .	J. J. A. Lee, Rushworth
Lemmon, H. N. . . . .	Children's Hospital, Carlton
Lewis, G. M. . . . .	G. L. Belleville, Fitzroy
Lewis, G. M. . . . .	A. K. Harris, Brighton
McLeod, I. D. . . . .	K. Roberts, West Brunswick
Macmillan, W. J. A. . . . .	F. W. Partington, Camberwell
Macmillan, W. J. A. . . . .	A. W. Callister, Kooyong
Malcolm, H. A. . . . .	G. S. Milne, Melbourne
Malcolm, H. A. . . . .	Miss V. Whelan, Richmond
Manks, T. E. . . . .	U.F.S. Dispensary, Glenhuntly
Morris, Miss G. . . . .	J. B. Hollow, North Fitzroy
O'Brien, G. J. . . . .	J. R. Oxley, Bentleigh
Phillips, F. R. . . . .	W. J. Langtry, Coburg
Pike, W. L. . . . .	N. W. Cook, Glenferrie
Portch, Miss J. . . . .	S. F. Byrnes, Preston
Richards, Miss V. C. . . . .	L. M. Wilson, Apollo Bay
Richards, Miss V. C. . . . .	U.S.F. Dispensary, Sunshine
Scott, P. L. . . . .	G. G. Heriot, Moonee Ponds
Scott, P. L. . . . .	Witt & Co., Prahran
Sest, J. L. . . . .	A. E. Moore, Hampton
Shaw, A. . . . .	G. N. Ross, Mansfield
Shaw, A. . . . .	P. Balding, Mansfield
Soulsby, I. R. . . . .	N. S. Broadbent, Mooropna
Stone, F. T. . . . .	R. S. Twiddy, Middle Brighton
Taylor, A. R. . . . .	U.F.S. Dispensary, Oakleigh
Taylor, Mrs. G. R. . . . .	A. W. Cocking, Camberwell
Trinder, J. K. . . . .	Andrews Drug Store, Melbourne
Vail, H. H. . . . .	W. H. Wallace, Frankston
Wheaton, F. . . . .	K. L. C. Davies, Maffra
Winson, J. V. . . . .	C. M. Waters, Hampton
Winson, J. V. . . . .	H. C. Dyte, Caulfield
Zacharin, Miss B. . . . .	Miss I. G. House, Murrumbeena

## BUSINESS CHANGES.

Miss F. Smalley has purchased the pharmacy of Mr. H. J. Isaacs, Armadale.

Mr. Wellington Lee has purchased the pharmacy from estate late Mr. M. Landmann, at Auburn.

Mr. E. P. Hynes has taken over the pharmacy formerly conducted by his late father at Colac.

Mr. J. B. Pyman has purchased Mr. W. J. Williams' pharmacy, East Melbourne.

Mr. P. A. H. Wright has purchased Mr. C. W. Hyndman's pharmacy at Springvale.

## BENDIGO DISPENSARY INCREASES LEVY.

"The Bendigo Advertiser" of April 29 reports that the Bendigo U.F.S. Dispensary has inaugurated a fund to which all members are expected to pay an extra levy. The establishment of this fund will meet the cost of medicines supplied to members and which previously were not within the scope of the pharmaceutical service available to them from membership.

## ADDITION TO SCHEDULE OF SPECIFIED DRUGS.

Under a proclamation published in the Government Gazette on April 29, Phenylbutazone, whether known as Butazolidine or by any other name, and all preparations thereof, was added to the list of Specified Drugs, i.e. to paragraph 2 of the Sixth Schedule to the Poisons Act 1928. The drug and its preparations may therefore in future be supplied only on prescription; prescriptions must be dispensed once only unless the prescriber has authorised repetition in writing on the face of the prescription; and prescriptions must be cancelled in accordance with the Regulations when dispensed on the last occasion legally permitted.

## DANGERS OF KEROSENE.

The need for care in the custody of kerosene was emphasised in a press statement by Dr. V. Collins,

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SYDNEY

## VICTORIA (Continued)

Medical Superintendent of the Children's Hospital, during the month.

Dr. Collins disclosed that the hospital treated something like 50 cases of kerosene poisoning a year.

Of these about 20 were serious enough to warrant admission of the victims to hospital.

No child had died during the past year, but children who had drunk kerosene repeatedly developed pneumonia because the kerosene was irritant to the lungs.

About 70 per cent. of the cases were children between 12 months and two years. The others were between two and four years. Dr. Collins urged parents to see that kerosene was not left where children could get it.

### CHECKING DOCTORS' SIGNATURES.

Occasionally most chemists are confronted by a dilemma when a stranger tenders a prescription carrying an unfamiliar signature. This has been brought to the notice of the P.D.L. Directors on a number of occasions, and as a lead to chemists it was asked that the desirable handling of the situation should be explained.

If the prescription orders any item which is scheduled as a dangerous drug or a specified drug the chemist's duty is clear. Before dispensing the prescription he must satisfy himself that the prescription is genuine.

If the doctor's name is unknown to the chemist he is not in a position to verify the signature, but at least he can check whether the name of the doctor appears on the medical register of Victoria. The medical register costs only 2/3 (including postage) and is obtainable from the Government Printer, Gisborne street, Melbourne. It should be an up-to-date copy, because of the many changes that occur each year by way of additions, deletions and changes of address.

If the name on the prescription does not appear in the medical register an inquiry by telephone to the Medical Board of Victoria (MU 6384) will quickly dispose of any doubt.

Another point to remember: a prescription written by a doctor registered in another State or country is not a valid prescription within the State of Victoria.

### MR. AND MRS. L. W. SMITH LEAVE FOR U.K.

On their way around the coast from Sydney, London-bound in R.M.S. "Oronsay" for the Coronation, the President of the New South Wales Branch of the Guild (Mr. L. W. Smith) and Mrs. Smith were entertained by their pharmacy friends and colleagues in Melbourne and Adelaide. Because of the ship's brief stay in Fremantle, Mr. and Mrs. Smith were unable to see their Western Australian friends.

In Melbourne on the night of April 27 Mr. Smith was the guest of the President of the Victorian Branch of the Guild (Mr. W. R. Iliffe) and his Executive, and those present included Messrs. E. Scott, K. G. Attiwill and T. B. Evans. At the same time Mrs. Smith dined at the Oriental Hotel with the President of the Women Pharmacists' Association of Victoria (Mrs. I. J. Thompson), Mrs. E. Scott and Mrs. A. G. Davis. The following day they were taken for a drive through the Dandenong Ranges, and in the evening were entertained at a small dinner party given by Mr. H. A. Braithwaite, President of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

In Adelaide Mr. and Mrs. Smith were met by the President of the South Australian Branch of the Guild (Mr. W. C. Cotterell) and Mrs. Cotterell.

In a letter to Mr. Attiwill written the night before the "Oronsay" reached Fremantle, Mr. Smith said: "My wife and I both extend our very sincere thanks to you personally as well as our other Australian friends who so kindly entertained us during our stay in Melbourne and Adelaide. We appreciate very much the many messages we received and the lovely floral gifts and very acceptable presents of fruits and sweets.

## OBITUARY.

### Mr. E. H. Leete.

Mr. Ernest Holloway Leete, who, together with the late E. T. Church, founded Sigma Co. Ltd., wholesale druggists, in 1912, died suddenly on May 3, aged 83.

He was born at Kyneton and there began his professional career. After qualifying, Mr. Leete conducted a pharmacy at Fitzroy for many years, and it was from there that he transferred to the wholesale side. Mr. Leete remained managing director of Sigma Co. Ltd. until 1924, when he retired. He continued, however, to take an active interest in the company. He was a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria from 1913 to 1925. Later he joined the staff of the Pharmacy Board and served for some years as an Inspector.

He had been a member of the Royal Automobile Club since 1914. For many years he was a member of the Council of the Club and was Vice-President from 1935 to 1943. He was the Club's representative on the Victorian Railways level crossings committee for some years.

Mr. Leete is survived by two sons and two daughters—Messrs. E. G. and R. Leete, Mrs. N. Thompson, of Pyramid, and Mrs. L. Forbes. Mr. E. G. Leete and Mrs. Thompson both qualified in pharmacy, and the former is in business at Balaclava in the pharmacy established by the late E. T. Church, who took Mr. E. H. Leete as his first apprentice at Kyneton. The Rev. C. H. N. Thompson, a son-in-law, qualified in pharmacy before he joined the clergy.

The funeral service at Bathurst's parlours, Caulfield, and the cremation at Springvale, on May 5, were largely attended.

We extend deepest sympathy to the members of the family.

### SOCIETY OF HOSPITAL PHARMACISTS.

#### Annual Conference.

The thirteenth Annual Conference and the General Meeting of the Society of Hospital Pharmacists (Victorian Division) was held on May 16 at the Bendigo Base Hospital.

It was with some misgivings that the Council of the Society decided to hold the conference at a country centre.

That these misgivings were unjustified was proved by the unprecedented success of the Bendigo meeting.

Coinciding as it did with the centenary of the hospital, the management made the conference part of their celebrations and spared no effort to give the delegates an enjoyable time.

Members arrived in Bendigo on Friday night and Saturday morning, to be welcomed at the hospital at 11 a.m. with morning tea, presided over by Miss Williams, director of nursing, and the manager of the hospital, Mr. Hurry. They were officially welcomed in the lecture hall later by the Mayor, Mr. Flood, Mr. Hurry, Miss Williams and the medical superintendent, Dr. Kelly, and were then shown over the hospital.

An apology was received from the Acting Premier, Mr. Galvin, who, owing to official duties, was unable to open the conference, as arranged.

After the tour of inspection, a most enjoyable lunch was served, for which our thanks are due to the dietitian and her helpers.

At 2 p.m. the conference was opened with the election of Mr. Anderson as chairman.

The conference was well organised, run to time and consisted largely of discussions, all members feeling that these were helpful and productive.

Thirty-seven members attended this conference. We are a small society and this number represents about 90 per cent. of our membership. Country centres were well represented by the pharmacists from Mildura, Hamilton, Mooropna and Geelong.

At 8 p.m. the annual meeting of the Society was held in the Bendigo School of Nursing, when Mr. W. Mercer



## VICTORIA (Continued)

was elected president; Miss B. Oldham and Mr. F. J. Boyd, vice-presidents; Mr. C. B. McGibbon, secretary; Mr. T. G. Cochrane, treasurer, and Mr. W. R. MacKay, Mr. V. Frank and Miss M. Burgess to the Council.

After the meeting a short programme of travel films was shown, followed by the serving of supper.

That this conference was an unqualified success is due to the excellent organising by Mr. Anderson and the co-operation and kindness of the manager, director of nursing staff and other members of the Bendigo Base Hospital staffs, who made us so royally welcome.

—M. D. Burgess.

### FUNGICIDES ACTS.

#### New Regulations.

Extract from Victoria Government Gazette, April, 1953.

In pursuance of the powers conferred by the Fungicides Acts His Excellency the Governor of the State of Victoria by and with the advice of the Executive Council thereof doth hereby make the following Regulations (that is to say):—

1. These Regulations shall be cited as the Fungicides Regulations 1953 and shall come into operation on the first day of October, 1953.

2. In these Regulations unless inconsistent with the context or subject matter—

"Fungicide" means any substance used for the purpose of destroying or preventing the attacks of fungi or other parasitic plants or bacteria and any substance which has been or is by Proclamation declared to be a fungicide for the purposes of the Fungicides Acts.

"Insecticide" means any substance used for the purpose of—

(a) destroying insects or other pests which affect or attack plants or fruit or animals; or (b) preventing such insects or pests from infesting or attacking plants or fruit or animals, and any substance which has been or is by Proclamation declared to be an insecticide for the purpose of the Fungicides Acts.

"Vermin destroyer" means any substance used for the purpose of destroying rabbits rodents dingoes foxes or other noxious animals or noxious birds and any substance which has been or is by Proclamation declared to be a vermin destroyer for the purposes of the Fungicides Acts.

#### Labelling and Packaging of Fungicides and Insecticides.

Every package in or by which any fungicide consisting of or containing **Ferric methyl dithiocarbamate** is cased covered closed contained or packed shall have securely affixed thereto or branded or stamped thereon a legibly printed or written label containing the following particulars:—

"Caution: May cause irritation of nose, throat and skin. Avoid breathing dust or spray mist. Avoid contact with eyes, skin or clothing. In case of contact, flush with plenty of water. For eyes, get medical attention."

Every package in or by which any fungicide, consisting of or containing at least 20 per cent. of **Tetramethylthiuramdisulphide** is cased covered closed contained or packed shall have securely affixed thereto or branded or stamped thereon a legibly printed or written label containing the following particulars:—

"Caution: May cause skin irritation. Do not inhale dust. Do not get in eyes or on skin. Wash thoroughly."

Every package in or by which any insecticide consisting of or containing **Toxaphene** is cased covered

contained or packed shall have securely affixed thereto or branded or stamped thereon a legibly printed or written label containing the following particulars:—

"Warning: May be fatal or harmful if swallowed. Do not breathe dust or spray mist. Do not get in eyes, on skin or on clothing. Wash thoroughly. Avoid contamination of foodstuffs."

Every package in or by which any fungicide consisting of or containing **Zinc dimethyl dithiocarbamate** is cased covered closed contained or packed shall have securely affixed thereto or branded or stamped thereon a legibly printed or written label containing the following particulars:—

"Caution: May be harmful if swallowed or inhaled. May cause irritation of nose, throat and skin. Avoid contact with eyes, skin or clothing. Avoid breathing dust or spray mist. In case of contact, flush with plenty of water. For eyes, get medical attention."

Every package in or by which any vermin destroyer consisting of or containing **Chloropicrin** is cased covered closed contained or packed shall have securely affixed thereto or branded or stamped thereon a legibly printed or written label containing the following particulars:—

"Poisonous: Not to be taken."

Warning: **Chloropicrin** was formerly used as a poisonous gas and its vapours can be lethal in small concentrations. Every care must be taken when handling **chloropicrin** to avoid inhaling the fumes. repeated small doses have a cumulative effect. It first causes smarting and watering of the eyes and this should be taken as a warning signal.

When used indoors or in confined spaces, or when pouring large quantities, use a gas mask. When used out of doors remain to the windward side when pouring or using the material; do not inhale the fumes and exercise care in manipulating containers and applicators.

Action to be taken in event of accidental contamination by liquid or exposure to fumes:—

Contamination by Liquid.—If liquid is spilt on the skin, wipe off and wash thoroughly with soap and water. Remove contaminated clothing and air thoroughly before using again.

Inhalation of Fumes.—Remove patient to fresh air and induce deep breathing. Give whiff of ammonia if available. Complete rest and warmth. If symptoms at all severe, call medical aid."

Every package in or by which any insecticide consisting of or containing **Chlordane** is cased covered closed contained or packed shall have securely affixed thereto or branded or stamped thereon a legibly printed or written label containing the following particulars:—

"Caution: Repeated or prolonged contact with the skin can cause toxic symptoms. Avoid inhalation or skin contact. In case of spillage on skin, wash with soap and water. Harmful if swallowed. **Not to be used** for spraying into the air as for flies nor for general application to large indoor areas nor for spraying clothing, bedding or furniture. To be used as a spot or jet spray, or with a brush, to cracks or areas where insects have been seen."

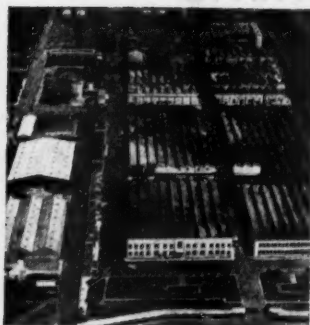
Every package in or by which any insecticide consisting of or containing **Benzene hexachloride** is cased covered closed contained or packed shall have securely affixed thereto or branded or stamped thereon a legibly printed or written label containing the following particulars:—

"Caution: Avoid prolonged breathing of vapour, dust or spray. May produce irritation of skin and eyes. Do not leave on eyes and skin; wash thoroughly."

Every package in or by which any insecticide consisting of or containing **Dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane** (or D.D.T. as the substance is sometimes denoted) is cased covered closed contained or packed shall have securely affixed thereto or branded or stamped thereon a

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**Distinctively-coloured tablets containing:**

aneurine hcl.	1 mg.
riboflavine	0.9 mg.
nicotinamide	10 mg.
pyridoxine hcl.	0.125 mg.
caffeine	1 gr.
calc. gluconate	3 gr.
ferrous sulphate	1½ gr.
phenobarbitone	¼ gr.

**Suggested adult dose:**

One tablet thrice daily.

**Bottles of 100 and 500**

*Also now available . . .*

**BITONE FORT.**, which contains in each fluid ounce: aneurine hcl. 4 mg., riboflavine 3.6 mg., niacinamide 40 mg., pyridoxine hcl. 0.5 mg., caffeine 22/3 gr., strychnine 1/32 gr., calc. gluconate 10 gr., ferrous lactate 3½ gr.

It has an unusually pleasant, slightly bitter flavour, and is available in bottles of 8 fl. oz.

**provides the average daily requirement of Vitamin B Complex**

(aneurine hcl., riboflavine, nicotinamide and pyridoxine)

**and**

**Minerals**

(iron and calcium)

*plus*

**Mild Stimulation**

(caffeine)

**and**

**Sedation**

(phenobarbitone)

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## DAVID G. BULL LABORATORY

### 61 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE C.I.



## VICTORIA (Continued)

legibly printed or written label containing the following particulars:—

"Caution: Repeated or prolonged contact with the skin can cause toxic symptoms. Avoid inhalation or skin contact. In case of spillage on skin, wash with soap and water. Harmful if swallowed."

Every person who sells any of the packages referred to in the preceding Regulations which has not securely affixed thereto or branded or stamped thereon a label containing the appropriate particulars prescribed by such Regulations shall be guilty of an offence against these Regulations and shall be liable to a penalty of not more than £20.

### PHARMACY BOARD

### Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of Victoria met at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on May 13, at 2.30 p.m.

**Present.**—Mr. H. A. Braithwaite (President) in the chair, Messrs. S. J. Baird, W. R. Iliffe, N. C. Manning, A. W. McGibbony, W. Wishart, F. C. Kent (Registrar) and T. G. Allen (Minutes Secretary).

**Illness of Mr. Callister.**—A letter was received from Mr. Callister stating that acting on medical advice he was unable to attend the meeting and will be confined to bed for some weeks.

Members expressed sincere regret at Mr. Callister's illness and resolved that the sympathy of the Board be conveyed to him. It was also resolved that three months' leave of absence from Board duties be granted to Mr. Callister.

**Correspondence.**—Letters submitted included the following:—

To a chemist, drawing attention to wording of an advertisement to which the Veterinary Board had taken exception.

To a chemist, requesting him to forward a list of names and addresses and qualifications of assistants and apprentices, such information being called for under the provisions of Regulation 83 of the Pharmacy Regulations.

To two chemists, reminding them that they were not legally authorised to practise while registration for the current year was outstanding.

From Mr. Sydney Hull, suggesting desirability of providing that all legal cases relating to breaches of conduct of dangerous and specified drugs should be heard before a County Court judge.

To the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales, re proposed conference to discuss the Poisons Schedules with a view to securing some measure of agreement between New South Wales and Victoria.

To a chemist, advising that Victoria had not a reciprocal agreement with the pharmaceutical authorities in South Africa.

From Lieut. Edith Martin, Brit. Comm., General Hospital, Japan, requesting that certificate of identity in her favour be forwarded to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

From a country chemist, inquiring if tincture of opium should be supplied for a veterinary prescription provided it was required for bona fide veterinary use. Advised that the Board regarded such supply as highly undesirable.

From the Chief Health Officer, re proposal to schedule all new synthetic narcotic drugs as dangerous drugs as soon as they appear and the use of a double red line as a distinguishing mark for containers of such drugs.

From the Chief Health Officer, seeking comment on proposals for determining zero date for holding stocks of heroin now proclaimed a prohibited import.

The correspondence submitted was formally received.

**Death of Mr. E. H. Leete.**—The President referred to the death of Mr. E. H. Leete, a former inspector of the Board and member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society. He said few men had contributed more in the

way of service to his own profession and the community generally than Mr. Leete. It was resolved that a proper record be made in the minutes and that sympathy of the Board be conveyed to Mr. Leete's relatives.

**Formal business** was recorded as follows:—

**Applications for Registration.**—Jack Benzakein, Helen Elizabeth Booth, Margaret Mary Farnan, Marcelle Shanahan, Avril Mary Taylor, Jess Beverly Theobald, Leon Benporath, Alison Margaret Brown (Final Exam., Vic.), Geoffrey Mark Lewis, Leon Krasenstein (Cert. Ph. Counc. of W. Aust.).

**Restoration of Names to Register.**—Noel Beamish Butler, Almond William Griffiths, Lawrence John W. Hayes, Walter John Keyte, Ronald Whiting Manning.

**Erasure of Names from Register.**—Richard Patrick Hynes (dec. 1953), Ernest Holloway Leete (dec. 3/5/53), Silas Johnston Smyth (dec. 8/5/53).

**Poisons Schedules: Proposed Additions.**—Mr. Manning reported that a special sub-committee consisting of himself, Professor Shaw and the President of the Board had met to consider the recommendation of the Patent Medicines Advisory Committee concerning the addition of a number of substances to the Poisons Schedules. A progress report had been prepared and a copy had been circulated to members of the Board. Further work had to be done and another report would be submitted in due course.

The President said Mr. Manning and his colleagues had done an outstanding job and the Board was extremely grateful to them.

**Inspectors' Reports, Inquiries, etc.**—A large number of surveys of stores and pharmacies was tabled. Numerous irregularities were reported, and it was resolved that the President be authorised to direct suitable action.

**Dangerous Drugs Regulations.** Two reports were received from the police regarding multiple breaches of the Regulations by country chemists, and the Board authorised prosecution in both cases.

Two chemists reported loss of small quantities of dangerous drugs as a result of breakage of containers. Confirmatory advice in both instances was submitted by the inspectors.

**Forgeries.**—Reports were received from two pharmacies on one day of suspected forgeries of prescriptions for pethidine. The C.I.B. Drug Squad was notified and the person responsible was apprehended.

**Illegal Supply Alleged.**—A report from a member of the public alleging illegal supply of dangerous drugs through unauthorised sources was referred to the police.

**Unsatisfactory Conditions.**—A report was submitted by the Chief Inspector on a sample of medicine apparently contaminated as the result of using stored water. The chemist had been warned of the unsuitability of the arrangements in the pharmacy.

**Loss of Specified Drug Capsules.**—The loss of specified drug capsules left outside a country pharmacy was reported and noted.

**Theft of Cocaine.**—A report was made to the Board concerning theft of cocaine from a pharmacy and illegal administration of the drug by an unregistered assistant at the pharmacy. The unregistered assistant had been admitted voluntarily to an institution for treatment after the matter had been reported to the C.I.B. Drug Squad.

**Financial.**—The Hon. Treasurer submitted the monthly Financial Statement, and accounts totalling £610/4/- were passed for payment.

**Prosecutions.**—The Registrar reported that Miss Veronica Whelan had been convicted on four offences under the Poisons Act and Regulations, and fines and costs had been imposed. Four other charges were unsuccessful. The magistrate upheld the contention of counsel for the defence that a prescription written for a fictitious person was not a prescription within the meaning of the Act and the Regulations. The Board adopted the recommendation from its legal advisers that it should seek a review of this decision in the Supreme Court.

**Sydney Conference.**—It was resolved that the President and any other members who would be in Sydney at the time of the Sydney conference should represent

## VICTORIA (Continued)

the Board at the Pharmaceutical Association meeting and conference of Pharmacy Boards.

**Butazolidine.**—The Registrar reported that a notice proclaiming Butazolidine as a specified drug was published in the Government Gazette on April 29.

**Erasure of Names from Pharmaceutical Register.**—A list of names of pharmaceutical chemists who had not renewed registration for 1953 was tabled, and it was resolved that the names of the 53 persons concerned be erased from the Pharmaceutical Register, subject to the approval of the Minister of Health being given.

**B.P. 1953.**—The Registrar read a letter from the Pharmaceutical Council of Western Australia, suggesting that a date be made to have the new B.P. introduced throughout Australia simultaneously. The B.P. 1953 would become official in Great Britain on September 1, 1953, and in one of the Australian States it operated automatically as from the date of adoption in the U.K. The Board endorsed the recommendation of the Registrar was instructed to notify other State Boards to that effect.

maceutical Council of Western Australia, and the Registrar. The meeting terminated at 7.55 p.m.

### PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

#### Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria met at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on May 6, at 9.45 a.m.

**Present.**—Mr. I. J. Thompson (President) in the Chair; Messrs. S. J. Baird, A. G. Davis, L. A. Hamon, A. L. Hull, F. W. Johnson, L. Long, E. Scott, C. P. A. Taylor, G. H. Williams, F. C. Kent (Secretary) and T. G. Allen (Minutes Secretary).

**Death of Mr. E. H. Leete.**—The President referred to the death during the month of Mr. E. H. Leete, one of the oldest members of the Society and a former member of the Council, and as a mark of respect members of the Council stood in silence for one minute.

**Correspondence.**—Letters dealt with by the Council included the following:—

From Mr. J. A. Kruse, suggesting that members be educated in regard to the need for the use of clean wrapping paper in pharmacies.

To Mr. E. Hall, congratulating him on election as President of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales. The President said he had received a nice letter of thanks and also congratulations from Mr. Hall on his (Mr. Thompson's) election.

To Mr. G. W. Sobee, informing him of his election as an Honorary Life Member and conveying the good wishes of the President and members of the Council.

From a country member, inquiring whether a branch pharmacy would be entitled to participate in dispensing roster for local hospital as well as the main pharmacy. Reply in affirmative sent and approved.

From Mr. A. T. S. Sissons (at sea), expressing thanks for sentiments expressed at farewell function.

The correspondence submitted was formally received.

**Illness of Mr. Callister.**—A letter was received from Mr. A. W. Callister, intimating that on medical advice he was seeking three months' leave of absence from lecture work in the College.

Members expressed their regret at Mr. Callister's illness and resolved that a message of sympathy be conveyed to him with best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Leave of absence for three months was granted to Mr. Callister, and it was resolved that the President confer with Mr. E. E. Nye and Mr. N. C. Manning in regard to arrangements for carrying on the work in pharmaceuticals.

**Fellowship Examination.**—A report was received from Mr. E. E. Nye to the effect that Mrs. Gwen Ibbott had passed all of the required examinations for Fellowship

of the Society. It was resolved that Mrs. Ibbott be informed that she is eligible for advancement to Fellowship.

**Meeting with Students.**—Reference was made to an inaccurate report in a recent issue of the Students' Magazine and it was resolved that the President should meet the Executive of the S.R.C. to discuss this and to inform the students that the Council was interested in their welfare and activities and was prepared at all times to discuss their problems.

**Complaint by Medical Practitioner.**—The Council considered a letter written by a medical practitioner to a pharmaceutical chemist in which the medical practitioner accused the chemist of substituting an ingredient in a prescription. The information supplied by the chemist showed that there had been no substitution. He took strong exception to the tone of the doctor's letter. The Council agreed that the accusation was unwarranted and instructed the Secretary to take appropriate action.

**National Service Training.**—The President reported that a letter had been received from a country member drawing attention to difficulties arising from National Service Trainees who were students of the College. He felt this was a matter which required serious consideration and that it might be necessary to defer the date of commencement of Second Year Lectures so that trainees would not miss the early part of the course. It was agreed that further consideration should be given to the problem and that it be discussed with the Dean after his return from abroad.

**New Members** were elected as follows:—

**Full Members:** Charles Vernon Thomas Bowen, Jess Beverly Dean, Gilian Ann Donald, Francis Frazer Cartwright, Frank Haley Hodgson, Margaret Grace Plaisted, John Brian Russo, John Louis Sest.

**Transfer from Apprentice Members:** Valma Mary Adamson, Frank Raymond Ahern, Wilfred Patrick Amarant, Margaret Mary Barfield, Thomas Ronald Barnsley, Helen Elizabeth Booth, William John Bolt, Graeme Bass Campbell, Ian Raleigh Edgerton Clarke, Jean Margaret Elder, Marie Eleanor Fisher, June Morey Fraser, John Bernard Green, Marjorie Alice Miles, Donald Clarence Petrie, Joan Martha Portch, Marcelle Shanahan, Lorraine Ada Stephen, Avril Mary Taylor, John Vincent Winson.

**Apprentice Members:** Raymond William Barry, Coral Moira Carey, Warren Wallace George Constable, Frank Leonard Cliff, Pamela Patricia Curnow, Allen Graham Campbell Davies, John Hamilton Davis, Vincent Anthony Doquile, Robert Bouring Douglas, Phillip George William Hastings, Beverley Margot Johnson, Leslie Julian Kausman, William Howard Larkin, Ethel Margolis, Malcolm Morgan, Brian Kenneth Nicholls, Bernard Robert O'Toole, Raymond Lewis Petrie, Janice Wilma Reader, Donald Wearne Roberts, Haydn Joseph Savage, Bernard Silver, Nozgen Marie Tynan, Hena Mary Winch, Priscilla Wong Pui Chun, Morry Wrobel.

**Fellow (by examination).**—Vera Catherine Richards.

**Library.**—The recommendation from the Editorial Committee of the A.P.F. that a copy of "Poisoning: A Guide to Clinical Diagnosis and Treatment," by W. F. von Aettingen, be obtained for the library was adopted.

**Hospital Dispensing.**—The Secretary reported that the Hospital Dispensing Committee met on April 17 to discuss the situation created by the circular to hospitals from the Hospitals' Commission, instructing hospitals to negotiate with the chemists on the basis of supplying of medicines, including pharmaceutical benefits, for public patients at cost plus 5 per cent. plus dispensing fee. The Committee had determined that these terms could not be accepted without loss to the chemists and had advised members to press for Guild dispensing rates. In the case of one hospital agreement had been reached on this basis and chemists had, with the acquiescence of the Hospital Committee, agreed to a 10 per cent. discount for collection of chemists' accounts.

**Annual Church Services.**—The President reported that over 400 replies had been received and it would therefore appear that they should proceed. Mr. Thompson

The advertisement features several Bayer's Aspirin product boxes and tablets arranged around a central white oval. The boxes include:

- Top Left:** A box with the Bayer logo and text: "Get FAST relief from HEADACHE COLDS FLU".
- Top Center:** A box with text: "RELIEVE HEADACHE FAST WITH BAYER'S ASPIRIN TABLETS".
- Top Right:** A large box with the text "COLDs and FLU" and "GET FASTER RELIEF WITH BAYER'S ASPIRIN TABLETS". It features an illustration of a woman in a swimsuit holding a large telescope.
- Bottom Left:** A box with text: "RELIEVE HEADACHE FAST WITH BAYER'S ASPIRIN TABLETS".
- Bottom Center-Left:** A box with text: "IN TWO SECONDS BAYER'S ASPIRIN TABLETS".
- Bottom Center-Right:** A box with text: "EXPRESS SPEED in the relief of HEADACHE if you take BAYER'S ASPIRIN".
- Bottom Right:** A box with text: "FAST RELIEF from HEADACHE with BAYER'S ASPIRIN TABLETS".

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Distributors: Fassett & Johnson Ltd.,  
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## Coronation SALES-MAKER!

In keeping with the spirit of this Coronation year your current deliveries of NIVEA will bear this special "sleeve" wrapper. It will give your window and counter displays that topical "up-to-the-minute" look. Be sure your stocks are adequate to take advantage of this NIVEA Sales-maker. The Coronation wrapper will not "date" the stock. At any time it can be slipped off instantly, disclosing the regular standard NIVEA pack underneath.

**NIVEA**  
the 9-purpose cream

Manufactured by Herts Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Welwyn Garden City & Sydney  
Supplies available through usual trade channels.

## VICTORIA (Continued)

said he and Mr. Attiwill would discuss the matter with the church authorities and report to the next meeting.

**Sydney Conference.**—It was resolved that the President, Mr. L. Long, Mr. C. P. A. Taylor and Mr. L. Hamon be appointed as official representatives of the Society, together with Messrs. N. C. Manning and E. E. Nye representing the Lectorial Staff.

**Financial.**—The Honorary Treasurer submitted the Monthly Financial Statement and accounts totalling £4042/14/11 were passed for payment.

**Presentation of Diplomas.**—The President reported on the proposed arrangements for presentation of diplomas to successful candidates at the Final Examinations during 1952 and 1953. He said it had been suggested that parents and former employers of the students should be invited. Members of the Council expressed approval of the arrangement and suggested that further consideration should be given to the time and place of the ceremony.

The President said that Dr. C. J. Tonkin had consented to deliver the oration at the ceremony and it would be necessary to confer with him in regard to the date. The arrangements and details for the function were left in the hands of the Executive.

**Evening Winter Lectures.**—The Secretary reported that the Lectorial Board, which had been asked to comment, had suggested that the most appropriate subject for a series of evening lectures would be the B.P. 1953. The possibility of arranging a series of lectures was being considered and a further report would be made to the Council.

**A.P.F.**—Mr. Johnson, Chairman of the A.P.F. Management Committee, reported on Mr. Hornby's activities for the month. Mr. Hornby's report indicated that the prices of A.P.F. preparations were still being queried by medical practitioners.

Mr. Long said it was necessary to emphasise that the A.P.F. formulae provided products of high standard and were not to be compared with lower priced, heavily advertised preparations.

**Presidential Message.**—Mr. Johnson congratulated the President on the letter which he had sent to members informing them of some of the activities and functions of the Society and giving details of the election of President, Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer.

Mr. Thompson thanked Mr. Johnson for his remarks and said that he had received a considerable number of letters complimenting him on this action.

**Presentation.**—A doctor's medical case dating back to 1860, presented by Mr. A. B. Rundle, of Wangaratta, for the College museum, was tabled, and it was resolved that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Rundle for this interesting contribution.

The meeting terminated at 1.5 p.m.

### THE P.D.L.

### Directors' Meeting

The 352nd meeting of the Directors of Pharmaceutical Defence Limited was held at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on May 20, at 9.45 a.m.

**Present.**—Mr. E. W. Braithwaite (in the Chair), Messrs. W. J. Cornell, N. C. Cossar, E. A. O. Moore, F. N. Pleasance, C. C. Wallis and the Secretary.

**Correspondence.**—Formal correspondence was tabled, and the following matters were dealt with:—

To the F.P.S. Guild of Australia (Victorian Branch), offering to participate equally with the Guild in meeting the additional cost of inclusion of the P.P. List in the Year Book of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria.

From a country member, seeking particulars of the Accident and Sickness Policy available from the Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society Ltd. Information forwarded.

From the Town Clerk, City of Melbourne, calling for nomination for the City Voters' Roll. Resolved that the Chairman, Mr. E. W. Braithwaite, be nominated.

An inquiry was made concerning the validity interstate of a P.B.A. Prescription ordering a Dangerous Drug. As regards an ordinary prescription, a prescription for a Dangerous Drug would not be valid outside the State in which it was written, and the prescribing medical practitioner must also be registered in the State where the prescription would be dispensed. As regards P.B.A. prescriptions, however, the chemist undertook not to refuse to dispense a P.B.A. Prescription. In this case, there appeared to be a possible conflict of authority between the State and the Federal laws in the event of a person bringing such a prescription from another State. It was resolved that the matter be left in the hands of the Chairman to obtain a ruling.

Mr. Moore suggested that the availability of copies of the medical register for the purposes of checking the authenticity of signatures on prescriptions should be brought to the notice of chemists per medium of a paragraph in the Journal.

From the Mutual Life & Citizens' Assurance Company Ltd., advising that, following the transfer of Mr. Justice Brown to Western Australia, attention to life assurance requirements of P.D.L. members would be undertaken by "various selected representatives" of the company.

From the Mutual Life & Citizens' Assurance Company Ltd., forwarding draft of a letter to be sent over the signature of the Secretary to members of the P.D.L. being approached in regard to the P.D.L. Group Assurance Scheme. The draft was read by the Secretary, and the Directors suggested a number of amendments.

Discussion took place in regard to P.D.L. advertising generally. The Chairman said he thought it would be advantageous to advertise in "Gilseal News" of the various States as well as in the Journal. Mr. Moore suggested as regards the "Gilseal News" advertising that they might feature (in brief outline only) one case each month, in order to give chemists some idea of the work the P.D.L. was doing. The Chairman said he thought it might be desirable to defer action on this suggestion until after the P.D.L. Conference in August, when the subject could be listed on the agenda for consideration by the meeting of P.D.L. representatives from all States. The Chairman's suggestion was endorsed.

To the Branch Secretaries, drawing attention to the proposed conference of the P.D.L. representatives to be held during the Sydney Conference period in August next, and asking that any items for the agenda be forwarded so as to reach the Head Office not later than May 30.

From the Queensland Branch, inquiring whether a ruling could be given as to the liability of a chemist in the event of accident or injury through the use of ray lamps. Informed that inquiry on this point had been addressed to Melbourne Fire Office Ltd. earlier in the year, but that so far a decision had not been reached.

**New Members Elected.**—Messrs. Francis F. Cartwright, Charlton; Peter A. H. Wright, Springvale; and William H. Brookman, Burnie (Tasmania).

**Ultra-Violet Lamps.**—The Secretary reported that at the request of Melbourne Fire Office Ltd. he had obtained from the Merchandising Section of the Guild a copy of the warnings fastened at the head of the lamp and at the base of the lamp. These details had been asked from M.F.O. by Sydney Fire Office Ltd. A further request was received from M.F.O., following an inquiry by Sydney Fire Office, for a copy of the leaflet dealing with Infra-Red Lamps. These leaflets had been obtained and forwarded to Melbourne Fire Office. The ruling of the insurance company as to

## VICTORIA (Continued)

whether (and, if so, on what terms) this risk could be covered was now awaited.

**Claims.**—It was noted that negotiations for settlement in two claims reported were proceeding.

**Constitution.**—Copies of correspondence with the N.S.W. Branch Office since the last meeting had been made available to the Directors. A reply was awaited on the suggestion for a conference of the respective Chairmen.

**Financial.**—The Hon. Treasurer presented the monthly financial statement, and accounts totalling £134/10/9 were passed for payment.

The meeting closed at 1.25 p.m.

## QUEENSLAND

### PERSONAL and GENERAL

State  
News

Hayman Island was the choice of Miss Erica Earnshaw for her annual holidays.

**Mrs. G. Escolme**, formerly of Cunnamulla, has opened a pharmacy at 60 Anzac avenue, Toowoomba.

**Mr. R. A. Yule's** new pharmacy will be situated at 259 Stafford road, Stafford.

**Mr. J. S. D. Mellick**, of Enoggera, has opened a branch pharmacy in Isles Love lane, Brisbane.

**Mr. V. B. Parer** has purchased Mr. B. F. McDermott's branch pharmacy at 828 Sandgate road, Clayfield.

**Mr. Donald Morrison**, who has been in charge of the dispensary at Greenslopes Military Hospital, has now joined the Commonwealth Health Department, Sydney.

Good wishes are extended to all for success in their venture.

**Interstate Guild visitors** to Brisbane during the month to discuss matters with members of the Queensland Guild Committee included Messrs. J. Little, A. R. Pinerau and A. E. Conolly.

**Office-bearers of the Students' Society** for this year include: **President**, Mr. John Gardner; **Vice-President**, Mr. Chris. Caris; **Secretary**, Mr. Peter Castellaro; **Treasurer**, Miss Elizabeth-Anne Tomlinson.

**Obituary.**—It is with regret that we report the death during the month of **Mrs. Rae Baxter**, widow of the late Ian Baxter. We feel that the deepest sympathy of many friends will be extended to Margaret and Neil in their bereavement.

### ENGAGEMENTS.

Congratulations and good wishes are offered to the following pharmacists who announced their engagement during the month:—

**Miss Beres Wilson**, of Nambour, who has been overseas for some time, has become engaged to Mr. Thomas Ewan Cain, of Ballaugh, Isle of Man.

**Mr. R. W. Buckby**, of Petrie, whose fiancée is Miss Mary T. McLaughlin, of Graceville.

**Mr. Henri J. Darrouzet**, of Gordon Park, has announced his engagement to Miss Patricia A. Lillie, of Melbourne.

### CHEMISTS' GOLF CLUB.

The first all-day's play of the recently formed golf club was held at the Redland Bay Golf Links on May 17. Play was enjoyed under perfect conditions and there were 45 men and seven women players. Stapleford event was won by Mr. R. F. Wiley and Mr. Ron Caffyn, the women's prize being won by Mrs. A. B. Chater.

At the end of play, in the shade of the trees, the president of the club, Mr. J. Richardson, addressed the gathering and thanked one and all for their loyal support, thus making the day an outstanding success.

The Kenneth Mitchell Sports Cup was on display and this will be competed for later.

It is proposed to have another golf day in approximately six weeks' time, before which all interested will be notified.

### CHEMISTS' BOWLING NOTES.

A pairs competition was held at the Booroodabin club on May 10, when eight pairs competed. The winners were:—

A. Bell	8.64 points plus 64
A. J. Monahan	6 " " 50
R. M. Ward	5 " " 52
G. Stephens	4 " " 55
H. Ferguson	4 " " 46
Leads:	
G. Kelly	6 " " 56
A. Winterflood	5 " " 61
R. Colledge	5 " " 54
R. Riddell	4 " " 50
R. Lenehan	4 " " 43

The monthly match was played against the Indooroopilly club on May 13, when the chemists enjoyed a win, the scores being:—

	Indooroopilly.
Atkins, Cook, Ward, Colledge	24 23
Morley, Dowd, Morley, Riddell	26 25
Ockelford, Hill, Lewis, Gillies	35 8
	85 56

Trophy forks for the day's play were won by Gillies' rink.

Next month's match will be played against the Booroodabin club, and on June 14 members will enjoy an all-day's game at Sandgate.

### FIRST YEAR LECTURES, 1953.

The first of the series of lectures was delivered at "Science House" on May 5 by Mr. C. G. Gostelow.

Prior to commencing of the lecture the students were addressed by the leaders of the Official Pharmacy in New South Wales.

Mr. E. G. Hall, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, said he wished to welcome the students to the first year instructions. He told those assembled that they were no longer high school pupils who were forced to study, but they were young men and women who in a very short time would commence studying at the university, where much depended on their initiative—as it did with the first year lectures. The lecturers would not force the students to study or to attend every lecture—that was entirely the students' affair, but lecturers did expect the students to arrive on time.

Mr. Hall then introduced some of the personalities in pharmacy—"people you will be hearing of during the next few years"—Mr. J. L. Townley, President of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales; Mr. W. R. Cutler, President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand; Mr. C. G. Gostelow, lecturer, and Mr. James Little, Acting President of the Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild of Australia (N.S.W. Branch).

Mr. Townley (President of the Pharmacy Board) said that his organisation was definitely a government one,



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LIGHT  
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## QUEENSLAND (Continued)

working in conjunction with the Board of Health. Its Registrar was Mr. P. E. Cosgrave. Any students who had a problem to solve might approach Mr. Cosgrave. If he could not assist he would refer the student to the Apprenticeship Council.

Mr. Townley continued that the Pharmacy Board administers only two Acts—the Pharmacy Act and the Poisons Act. It was necessary for apprentices to remember that all poisons must carry the "poisons sticker." The Pharmacy Board had no jurisdiction over the Dangerous Drug Act, this Act being administered by the police. It regulated the sale of narcotics and drugs of addiction.

Mr. Cutler (President, P.A.A.N.Z.) said his organisation—the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand—was formed in the early part of this century to bring together all pharmaceutical thought under the banner of the Commonwealth and New Zealand. P.A.A.N.Z. consisted of all pharmaceutical societies in the Commonwealth, all State branches of the Guild, the P.D.L., hospital pharmacists' organisations in some States, women pharmacists' organisations and Pharmacy Boards. They met generally every two years in conference. The conference this year would be held in Sydney and they would like to see students at some of the functions.

Mr. Cutler said that on behalf of the pharmaceutical organisations he would like to congratulate them on the step they were taking. Pharmacy was an honourable profession—it was, particularly in the English-speaking world, becoming a profession of which they should be proud. "You do not want to enter the profession only for the monetary return you get out of it, but should bear in mind what you can do for the profession," he said.

Mr. Cutler said he hoped the class would enjoy their studies and that they would be able to go on to the higher course, which would probably be implemented before they finish their studies. If students were imbued with the spirit of the profession, they would take the higher course.

Mr. Cutler concluded by saying: "I do hope you have success in your pharmaceutical future—giving to the profession everything that it is possible to give."

Mr. C. G. Gostelow (lecturer) said he hoped they would live up to the appellation (student) as the years went by.

Mr. James Little (Acting President of the Guild) then rose and wished the students every success. His organisation would not interest the students at this stage, as the Guild was an organisation for master pharmacists only. When the students qualified they would soon have their own pharmacies and they would want to know what the Guild stands for.

The Guild, said Mr. Little, consists of a State Branch Committee in each State, and in New South Wales the S.B.C. has four sub-committees—the Trade and Commerce; Planning and Publicity. Pricing; Repatriation, Lodge and Hospital Dispensing and the Industrial and Early Closing. Each sub-committee has various duties, and reports back to the State Branch Committee monthly. A similar procedure is adopted in other States. The Federal Council looks after the Guild policy and the delegates report back to the States the decisions of the Federal Council meetings and the States in turn implement the Federal policy.

The Guild was responsible for the terms and conditions of the Pensioners' Medical Scheme and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

Mr. Hall then said that without further ado the students would be handed over to Mr. Gostelow to learn the intricacies of pharmaceutical mathematics.

## PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

### Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland met at Drysdale's Chambers, Brisbane, on May 14, at 8 p.m.

**Attendance.**—Mr. R. S. F. Greig (President), Misses E. A. Everett, E. Chambers, Messrs. V. Barnett, H. G. E. Sneyd, R. G. Gardner, R. V. S. Martin, A. B. Williams, and the Secretary.

**Visitors.**—The President extended a welcome to the guest members—Messrs. L. F. Murphy and W. F. Hargrave—and trusted that both would find the evening interesting.

**Certificate of Membership.**—The Secretary reported that Eager & Lamb had provided a quotation for supply of 1000 certificates as per sample submitted. Members of the Council said the sample submitted met with their approval, and it was agreed that the quote be accepted. The Secretary was authorised to instruct Eager & Lamb to proceed with the printing of the certificates.

**Bookshelves.**—The Secretary advised that she had received a quote for bookshelves 6 ft. long by 3 ft. high, 12 inches deep, cream lacquered pine with sliding plate glass doors.—After discussion, Mr. Martin moved that the bookshelves as outlined be procured. Seconded by Mr. Barnett. Carried.

**Re Pledge of Loyalty to the Queen.**—The President reported that at the last meeting, Mr. Mellick had recommended that a pledge of loyalty from the Society to the Queen be sent to the Governor, as the Coronation time approached, and it was agreed that further consideration be given to this at this meeting.

Mr. Martin moved that a message of loyalty be sent to the Queen through His Excellency the Governor on the occasion of the Coronation. Seconded by Miss Chalmers. Carried.

The President reported that the Governor would hold a levee on Coronation Day, and he wondered if the Council wished the President and Vice-President to represent the Society. Mr. Barnett said he thought it would be desirable. Mr. Sneyd said he also favoured the suggestion.

Mr. Greig said Mr. Martin and he would be very happy to attend.

**War Service.**—The Secretary advised that there had not been a very good response from those members who served during the war so that the information could be collated for an Honour Roll the Society had in mind. Mr. Greig said if the Council proposed to go ahead with the Honour Roll he thought a sub-committee should be appointed to try and collect the information.

Mr. Barnett said he felt the only way of securing the information was by a questionnaire.

Mr. Williams moved that Mr. Mellick and Mr. Gardner be appointed a sub-committee to look after this matter, and if possible collect the necessary data. Seconded by Mr. Martin. Carried.

**Correspondence.**—To Under-Secretary, Department of Health and Home Affairs, concerning the registration as pharmacists in Queensland of persons holding foreign qualifications as chemists. Requesting the Government to give consideration to amending the Pharmacy Act, whereby it would be compulsory for a person with foreign qualification, and applying for registration as a pharmacist in Queensland, to: (1) Have a sound knowledge of English, (2) Have had two years practical training in a pharmacy or hospital pharmacy. (3) Be compelled to pass an examination in practical pharmacy and forensic pharmacy; and furnishing reasons for submitting this recommendation.—Reply stating the matter will receive consideration when the Legislative programme is next under review.

For the information of the Council, the President reported that the Government Gazette of April 23, advised that the Governor-in-Council approved for re-



## QUEENSLAND (Continued)

gistration as a pharmacist in Queensland a person holding a certificate issued jointly by the Pharmaceutical Board of Western Poland and the Chief of the Health Department of Western Poland.

To Mr. K. Woods, concerning apprentices and National Service training. Pointing out that the subject was one which did not come within the jurisdiction of the Pharmacy Board, but was covered by the National Service Act. Members of the Council agreed that the country student was set back in his course through having to undertake three months military training, and advising that the matter is being discussed by the Liaison Committee.

To Mr. C. H. Williams, regretting that the financial position of the Society precludes it from assisting in the purchase of an atomic Model Kit for teaching purposes. As the Pharmacy Department came within the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Instruction, it was suggested that he make representations to that Department in the hope of a model kit being made available.

From Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, advising that there appears to be little likelihood of a sufficiently representative gathering to make it practicable to hold a meeting of representatives of Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Societies in London in September. Under the circumstances the Council has decided with regret not to proceed further in the matter.

From Pharmaceutical Association: (1) Re Adelaide Conference on Pharmaceutical Education. Requesting that the resolution on page 24 of the conference report be brought before the Council to consider ways and means whereby advantage can be taken of the offer of practical assistance by the Federal Council of the Guild. Mr. Greig recalled that at the Adelaide discussion, the Federal Council of the Guild, through Mr. N. C. Manning, promised its support in any way the conference saw fit. Mr. Greig said he thought it would be preferable if members of the Council gave the matter some thought prior to next meeting. After discussion, it was agreed that this question be deferred for consideration until next meeting, and the Pharmaceutical Association advised accordingly.

(2) Enquiring if the Council has any remits for the Sydney conference in August. Mr. Greig asked members to give the matter some thought.

(3) Attaching report of a meeting of the Association Executive to discuss arrangements for the Sydney conference.

The Secretary, Queensland Pharmaceutical Students' Society, advising the office-bearers for the ensuing year.

Report of the Sixth Annual Council Meeting of the National Council of the National Union of Pharmaceutical Students of Australia was tabled.

**Unfinancial Members.**—The Secretary reported that fifty-six members and eighteen associates had not yet paid the current year's subscription. After discussion, it was resolved that the names of unfinancial members be taken off the Journal mailing list, that they be advised accordingly, and also informed that under the Constitution, unless their subscription is paid, they cannot use the letters M.P.S.

**New Members** were elected as follows:—

**Full Member:** Mrs. L. B. Carlson.

**Associates:** Miss M. H. Graham and Miss M. A. Martin.

**Report on Liaison Committee Meeting.**—Mr. Greig read the minutes of the Liaison Committee, which met on April 20, when the question of Pharmaceutical Education was discussed at length.

**Pharmacy Board.**—Mr. Martin reported on matters engaging the attention of the Board.

**List of Drug Synonyms and Trade Names.**—The Secretary reported that a member had enquired if it would be possible for the Society to make such a list avail-

able, as it was felt that it would be greatly appreciated and of value to members.

Mr. Martin said the preparation of such a list would be a colossal task, and he doubted whether any member of the Council could undertake the compilation of same. After discussion, it was resolved that the member enquiring be advised that members of the Council appreciate his suggestion, but as the task is a colossal one the Council feels that it cannot be handled.

**Departure from Queensland of Mr. Manning, Queensland Manager of Kodak.**—Mr. Gardner reported that Mr. Manning, Queensland Manager of Kodak (A'asia) Pty. Ltd., who had been a good friend to pharmacy, had been transferred to a higher position with his company in Victoria, and he thought it would be fitting if the congratulations and good wishes of this Council were conveyed to Mr. Manning. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Mr. Manning conveying the good wishes of the Council.

**Visitors' Thanks.**—Before the Chairman declared the meeting closed, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Hargrave said they would like to thank the President and members of the Council for the opportunity of attending. Mr. Murphy said it would appear that the Society's activities were hampered owing to lack of finance and because of regulations.

In reply, Mr. Greig assured the visitors that the Council was pleased that they had been able to attend.

The meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.

## THE GUILD

## S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the Queensland Branch of the Guild met at Drysdale Chambers, Brisbane, on May 13, at 8.30 p.m.

**Attendance.**—Messrs. W. A. Lenehan (President), C. A. Nichol, C. W. Noble, W. E. Martin, J. J. Delahunty, A. B. Chater, A. Bell, L. Hall, A. W. Eberhardt, F. H. Phillips, and the Secretary.

**Re Sale of Lines Restricted to Chemists by Homoeopathist.**—The Secretary reported that the local Manager of Reckitt Colman (Aust.) Ltd. had advised that a wholesaler had supplied "Dettol" and "Steradent" to a Homoeopathist in all good faith, believing the business to be that of a pharmacist. The wholesale firm had now withdrawn all supplies and had been warned concerning future supply of "Chemists' Only" lines.

It was reported that the Pharmacy Board had investigated the case, but found that no dispensing was being carried on and the business was not purporting to be that of a pharmacist.

After discussion it was agreed that letters should be sent to the local wholesalers, pointing out that restricted or "Chemists' Only" lines should not be supplied to this Homoeopathist.

**Medical Benefits Fund.**—It was reported that it had not been possible to contact the manager of this fund as he had been out of town. Mr. Lenehan advised that one of the canvassers had reported that in all probability an enrolment fee would be granted to agents writing up new business.

**Military Training Respecting Pharmaceutical Apprentices.**—Emanating from a special meeting held to discuss this question, the President reported that Mr. Eberhardt was deputed to interview Mr. Laws, Registrar of Labour and National Service, and he asked Mr. Eberhardt to report on his interview.

Mr. Eberhardt said he discussed the matter with Mr. Laws and also Mr. Wilson, of the Department, both of whom had had discussions with the Principal of the Technical College. Mr. Eberhardt said he was informed, as a result of discussions with the Principal of the College, that it was agreed not to call up apprentices in the first and second year of their apprenticeship, but for them to undertake the military training in the third year. Mr. Eberhardt said he pointed out that it



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## QUEENSLAND (Continued)

was very hard on a country student who missed three months, resulting in him probably having to delay his final year by a further 12 months. To this, Mr. Laws and Mr. Wilson replied that this was not peculiar to Pharmacy apprentices only. Mr. Eberhardt said he inquired if a city apprentice could not serve his military training after his third year and a country apprentice after the fourth year. To this Mr. Laws replied that the students would then be 21 and 22, and, from previous experience, it was found that students of that age did not fit in with the lads of 18.

Mr. Eberhardt reported that Mr. Laws stated that the Department would always take a sympathetic view of any case submitted to it, and he recommended that apprentices who would experience hardship by attending military training and thereby having their course lengthened by a year should make application to the Department for deferment until after their final examination. Mr. Laws said the Department would always sympathetically consider any application on grounds of hardship. His Department could not go very far by way of exemptions, but an applicant always had the right, under the National Services Act, of appealing to a Magistrate for such exemption.

Mr. Eberhardt said that Mr. Laws promised to put this information in writing so that it could be published for the advice of members.

Mr. Lenehan thanked Mr. Eberhardt for having interviewed Mr. Laws and for reporting thereon.

**Over-the-Counter List.**—The President reported that Mr. Huxham was not present to report what progress had been made on the new list. As many members were seeking copies of the list, it was hoped to make it available as early as possible.

**Re Queensland Employers' Federation.**—Mr. Noble reported that, as requested from last meeting, he had interviewed Mr. Self, Secretary of the Federation, concerning the account for £21 rendered to the Guild regarding the Basic Wage Case. Mr. Noble advised that Mr. Self had informed him that the total estimate of the costs of this particular case to June 30 would be round about £28,062, of which Queensland would be responsible for approximately £900 to £1250. Mr. Noble said in the past the Guild had always pulled its weight in this connection and he saw no reason why it should not do the same on this occasion. Mr. Chater moved that the amount of £21 be paid to the Queensland Employers' Federation. Seconded by Mr. Delahunty. Carried.

**Re Subscription to P.A.T.A.**—Mr. Delahunty reported that he had been discussing with the Secretary of P.A.T.A. the question of bulk membership of that organisation for members of the Guild, and it had been suggested that if the Guild applied for a block membership against an annual subscription of £25 it would be considered. Mr. Delahunty said many urgent matters had been engaging the attention of P.A.T.A. Price-cutting had been rather prevalent and the P.A.T.A. had done some excellent work. He felt that block membership on behalf of the Guild would be a step in the right direction. Mr. Delahunty moved that the Guild make application for block membership of its members in the State and that an offer of £25 subscription be also submitted. Seconded by Mr. Noble. Carried.

**New Members Elected.**—Messrs. R. A. Yule, 259 Stafford road, Stafford, and V. B. Parer, 828 Sandgate road, Clayfield.

**Re-admission.**—Mrs. G. Escolme, 60 Anzac avenue, Toowoomba.

**Correspondence.**—To Federal Secretary, (1) advising that the Committee is opposed to any reduction in payment for Pharmaceutical Benefit Dispensing. Advising of the discussion on this subject which took place at the April Committee meeting.

(2) Lengthy communication tendering this Committee's recommendations concerning P.M.S. and the

pre-pricing scheme. Discussion on this subject took place at the special committee meeting held on April 22.

(3) On behalf of the Federal Delegate, advising that the Committee would be prepared to accept the Interim scheme until January next, provided it does not involve a big reduction in the average drug container price for pricing the balance.

The President reported that within the last week a news letter had come to hand from the Secretariat, which provided members with the whole picture up to date.

Mr. Lenehan also advised that the Chief Pharmacist had informed him that he had been authorised to pay an extra penny on all dispensing fees for Pharmaceutical Benefits and for those prescriptions coming within the "s" Group of P.M.S. He wished the penny to be added to all dispensing fees for May, and his Department would also make the necessary adjustments as to when the increase is to be made retrospective.

**From Queensland Commissioner of Prices,** re application for increases in dispensing fees. Regretting that after very careful investigation and due consideration of all the facts, such application is not approved. Advising that the matter will be subject to review on receipt of chemists' financial accounts for the year ending June 30, 1953.

**Pharmaceutical Public Relations Secretariat,** (1) forwarding copy of card advertising Medical Benefits, issued free to all chemists by the Hospitals Benefits Association, which it was thought might be of interest to the Committee with regard to medical benefits in Queensland. Members of the Committee agreed that the card was eye-catching and would no doubt prove a help in pharmacies in Queensland. After discussion, it was agreed that the Secretary should bring the matter before the notice of Mr. Allison, of the Medical Benefits Fund, to see if it would be possible for a similar card to be made available for chemists in this State.

(2) Forwarding copy of the National Health Bill, 1953, with a copy of analysis of some of the sections. Tabled.

**Federal Merchandising Manager,** re "Australaid" Hearing Unit. Advising that the project as a whole is going particularly well and has all the earmarks of ultimate success on a pretty large scale. Inquiring if the Committee would like the Principal of Australaid Laboratories to give a short address one evening. After discussion, it was resolved that a reply be forwarded advising that, as there is so much business to be dealt with at committee meetings, time does not permit of any addresses.

**Ipswich and West Moreton Zone,** seeking legal ruling as to the liability of a chemist in the event of accident or injury through the use of ray lamps. Pointing out that a report in the February "A.J.P." mentioned that P.D.L. head office in Victoria was giving the matter some attention. The Secretary reported that she had communicated with the Secretary of P.D.L., and a reply had now come to hand intimating that advice was awaited from the insurance company. Several members mentioned that legal opinion on this question was to the effect that, if a chemist handed out a lamp for hire without any warning or instructions as to its use, in the event of an accident occurring he could be held liable. Under the circumstances, members felt that the X-Ray Company should be approached to see if they could provide a sheet of instruction or a pamphlet of warning which could be handed by the chemist to a person when hiring a lamp, or the information printed on a tag, which could be tied to the lamp. It was recommended that these suggestions be transmitted to the Federal Merchandising Manager for submission to the X-Ray Company.

From a member, stating he is at variance with an interpretation given by the Chief Pharmacist of the Commonwealth Health Department. Advising, a local doctor has ordered Chloramphenicol under P.M.S. His

## QUEENSLAND (Continued)

attention was drawn to the fact that this should be under P.B., and he was asked to endorse it under Reg. 14A, but he refused to do so, as he stated it was not to be used according to the limits of that regulation, claiming that the drug is covered by a B.P. monograph, and for the purpose that he proposes to use it, not available under P.B. Mr. Lenehan reported that he had studied the Regulation and the notes of instruction for chemists. He had also perused the file of correspondence, and he was of the opinion that the Chief Pharmacist's ruling was correct. Other members said the Regulations stipulated that Chloramphenicol could not be supplied on a P.M.S. prescription, and they recommended that the member should show the doctor the correspondence he has had on this question with the Chief Pharmacist. Mr. Chater said if the doctor still doubted the advice, the Director-General of Health, Canberra, should be asked to communicate with the doctor. After discussion, it was agreed that the member should be informed that this Committee agrees with the ruling provided by the Chief Pharmacist, as such an item is not allowable under the regulations as a P.M.S. benefit. If he desires that the matter be taken further and will be good enough to advise the name of the doctor, Federal Office would be asked to request the Director-General of Health, Canberra, to communicate direct with the doctor.

Mr. Peter Castellaro, Secretary, Students' Society, advising that many students do not know sufficient concerning pricing, and enquiring if it would be possible for the Guild to provide some lectures concerning the pricing of private prescriptions and Pharmaceutical Benefit scrips. Mr. Nichol said he felt that it was a step in the right direction, and he moved that Mr. Chater be asked to kindly provide the necessary lectures. Seconded by Mr. Noble. Mr. Chater said he would be agreeable to assist the students.

Pharmaceutical Association, seeking remits from the Conference to be held in Sydney from August 11-19. Mr. Lenehan asked members to give the matter some thought.

From Queensland Health Education Council, concerning the par. in the "Telegraph" in relation to poisons for cockroach extermination, wherein it was advised that the public be directed to the local storekeeper — no mention being made of the pharmacist. Pointing out that the term "cockroach poison" is a loose one applied to those preparations for the extermination of cockroaches and many stores in metropolitan areas and most country stores are licensed to sell poisons. However, in future publicity on cockroaches, the advice will be amended to read: "Ask your local chemist or store to recommend a cockroach poison." Noted.

Industrial Court, advising that the application by the Queensland Shop Assistants' Union for a variation of the award for the Southern Division will be heard at the Industrial Court on June 10. Mr. Noble said he had perused the proposed alterations to various clauses of the award and they referred to wage increases. In some instances they were quite substantial. Mr. Chater moved that the matter be opposed on principle, and he recommended that Mr. Noble should be asked to represent the Guild at the hearing. Seconded by Mr. Nichol. Carried.

Strand Press, inquiring if the Guild would assist in approaching various firms concerning advertising in "Idle Moments." Providing copy of letter it is proposed should be forwarded on Guild letterheads, and the list of proposed addresses. These were submitted to the Committee for its information. Mr. Martin said he felt that chief prominence should be given to "Chemists' Only" lines. Mr. Delahunty said "Idle Moments" could not exist on the advertising from "Chemists' Only" lines alone. After discussion, the Committee agreed that it would be in order for the letter submitted to

be forwarded. It was agreed that inquiries should be made of several firms listed.

**Report on Liaison Committee Meeting.**—The President reported that the Liaison Committee had met on April 20, when Pharmaceutical Education was thoroughly discussed. The question had been raised as to whether the next step to be taken concerning education in this State should be a petition to members throughout Queensland with a copy of the proposed course, for presentation to the Government at the appropriate time. It was agreed that representatives of the Society and Guild on the Liaison Committee should present this query to their respective bodies. It was felt that the Society should send out the petition with the assistance of the Guild.

After discussion, it was felt that this would be a step towards bringing the question of Pharmaceutical Education before the notice of the Government, and it was agreed that the Guild Committee was in favour of a petition being prepared.

**Medico-Pharmaceutical Liaison Committee.**—The President advised that it was some time since this Committee had met, and he asked members to give some thought to any items requiring discussion by the joint representatives.

**"Gilseal" Tonic Wine.**—Mr. Lenehan reported that the wholesalers had complained that they could not procure stocks of "Gilseal" Tonic Wine, nor could they get any satisfaction from the manufacturers as to when stocks would be available. Mr. Lenehan said he had asked the Secretary to ascertain the position. She found that supplies had not been available for some time because stocks of Proof Spirit were unprocureable. After discussion, it was agreed that the manufacturers should be asked to submit a new price so that a new price structure could be worked out.

**Patents List.**—Mr. Nichol said the Committee would have to give some consideration to providing a new patent and toiletry list. He said the compilation of the present list was a colossal task and he could not promise to undertake the supervision of the list this year. He had been receiving the Perminindex list and the one provided by the N.S.W. Branch. The former was a loose-list system with weekly amendments, while the N.S.W. Branch was similar to our drug and ethical lists — it had weekly amendments with a complete reprint every three months — and of the two lists he preferred the latter. He recommended that inquiries be made of the N.S.W. Branch to ascertain if they could print sufficient copies of their list — with Queensland prices — to cover our members, and also supply weekly amendments. Mr. Nichol moved accordingly. Seconded by Mr. Eberhardt. Carried.

Mr. Nichol said that, owing to pressure of work, he would have to ask for six months' leave of absence from pricing work. He would be prepared to carry on with pricing later, but other matters were engaging his attention over the next few months, and he felt that he could not give the attention necessary to pricing matters.

Mr. Lenehan thanked Mr. Nichol for his services, which were greatly appreciated. After discussion, Mr. Bell agreed to undertake the compilation of the prices.

**Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria.**—Reference was made to the election as President of the Victorian Society of Mr. Ivan J. Thompson, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, and Queensland's representative on that Committee, and it was felt that the occasion warranted a letter of congratulation and good wishes from the members of the State Branch Committee. The Secretary was requested to write suitably to Mr. Thompson.

**Departure of Mr. F. Manning, Queensland Manager of Kodak.**—It was reported that Mr. Manning, of Kodak (A'asia) Pty. Ltd., would shortly be leaving Queensland to take up a higher position with his company in Victoria. Members of the Committee remarked on the happy relationship which existed between Mr. Manning as Queensland Manager of Kodak and the Guild,

## QUEENSLAND (Continued)

and it was resolved that the Secretary should write, on behalf of the Committee, conveying its congratulations and good wishes for the future.

The meeting closed at 11.30 p.m.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

### PERSONAL and GENERAL

State  
News

#### PERSONAL NEWS.

We greatly regret the absence of our usual budget of personal news this month. Our correspondent posted his monthly despatch in good time, but this failed to reach us. Unfortunately, it was too late, when the matter was noticed, to remedy the position.

#### BABY DIES FROM POISONING.

A two-year-old child, Malcolm Queale, of Beaumont, died as a result of swallowing poison found on the lid of a discarded weed killer container. The mother was being given breakfast in bed as a Mothers' Day treat when the fatality occurred. In a letter to "The News" the grandmother wrote:

"Once again, through someone's thoughtless carelessness, a lovely, winsome baby, just taking his first brave steps, has been taken in a few hours, leaving a home desolate and empty."

### PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly  
Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of South Australia met at 25 King William street, Adelaide, on May 13, at 7.45 p.m.

**Present.**—Mr. K. S. Porter (President) in the Chair, Messrs. C. A. M. Reid, E. F. Lipsham, B. F. Mildren, Walter C. Cotterell, and the Registrar.

**Correspondence.**—An inquiry from the Northern Drug and Chemical Co. in connection with the marketing of chemicals in tablet form has been referred to the Department of Public Health.

The suggested meeting of Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Societies in London in September has been abandoned.

Circular has been received from the Pharmacy Board of Victoria setting out amendments to Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Schedules and Dangerous Drugs Regulations. Mr. Porter agreed to take this circular and report to the next meeting of the Board.

Matters contained in the Fifty-sixth Annual Report of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales were discussed.

An inquiry has been received from the Pharmacy Board of Victoria with reference to P.B.A. and Repatriation prescriptions for Dangerous Drugs. The Pharmacy Board of Victoria has been advised that it is the practice in South Australia to retain the duplicates of Dangerous Drugs prescriptions, but that the control of such matters is in the hands of the Department of Health.

Mr. Porter reported on the minutes of the Poisons Schedules Advisory Panel of Victoria, particularly in reference to Heroin, Open Chain Ureides, Potassium Bromate, Tyrothricin, Butazolidin, Mysoline, Oblivon, Control of Oestrogens, Natrinil Powder, Recommendations from Health Department, Avomine.

Mr. K. A. McNeil advised that he has terminated his

engagement with Friendly Societies Medical Association.

**Conference.**—Three remits from the Board have been forwarded to P.A.A.N.Z. for inclusion on the agenda of the Sydney Conference to be held in August next.

**Regulations.**—The Sub-Committee reported on a new regulation necessary to meet the recent amendment of the Act in connection with overseas pharmacists, and in the report indicated that a draft regulation had been prepared, but nevertheless it was felt that difficulty would be experienced in its practical application. It was decided that the Sub-Committee should endeavour to arrange a conference with the Under Secretary to discuss the position.

**Depots.**—The Sub-Committee appointed to consider this regulation submitted a preliminary report, and certain matters were referred back for further investigation.

Applications were received and approved from Mr. H. J. Goldman for registration of depots at Nangwarry and Kalangadoo.

**Relievers.**—Mr. C. J. Kean to Mr. V. J. Fountain; Mr. J. L. Davis to Mr. C. L. Grimes; Mr. D. S. Barnes to Mr. A. E. Plotz; Mr. R. C. Holder to Messrs. D. H. Peek, J. W. Stain; Mr. T. A. Clerk to Mr. A. H. Anderson; Mr. G. R. Townsend to Messrs. R. H. Evelyn, P. J. Cox; Mr. D. A. Ardil to Messrs. W. A. Alexander, W. F. Rice; Miss A. A. L. Dent to Messrs. D. J. Underwood, J. J. Kelly; Mr. P. S. Wurm to Mr. R. N. Griffiths; Mr. P. G. Stedman to F.S.M.A., Rosewater; Mr. J. J. Cracknell to Mr. C. L. Grimes; Mr. R. A. Crago to Messrs. W. M. Grove, R. E. Cavanagh; Mr. H. C. Thomas to Mr. R. L. E. Weller.

**Chemist's Sign.**—Notification was forwarded to a storekeeper in a country area drawing his attention to the requirements of the Pharmacy Act and to certain notices appearing on his premises. Correspondence has now been received from the storekeeper concerned advising that the notices in question have been removed.

**Labels.**—Correspondence has been forwarded to and received from various pharmacists in connection with red colouring on labels, and in each case pharmacists concerned have promised co-operation with the Board in this matter. Letters of appreciation have been forwarded to the pharmacists concerned.

Correspondence has been forwarded and received from a manager of a pharmacy, requesting that the matter of red colouring on labels should be brought before his principal. It was agreed that this should be done.

Two pharmacists had previously advised that they were in the process of having new labels printed. It was decided that a letter should now be forwarded to them asking if copies of such labels could be forwarded to the Board.

The attention of the Board was directed to a label attached to a medicine bottle which did not clearly indicate on the label the address at which the medicine was dispensed. It was decided that the Inspector should call at the pharmacy concerned.

**Finance.**—Statement for the month of April was submitted and adopted, and accounts totalling £27/4/11 were passed for payment.

**Annual Practising Fee.**—It was unanimously resolved that as from January 1, 1954, the fee for the issue of any annual practising certificate to any pharmaceutical chemist shall be the sum of £2/2/-. This increase in the fee has been brought about as a result of continually rising costs and the requirement under the Act that the Board shall meet all costs from current income.

**Apprentices.**—Nine indentures were received for registration. Three assignments of indentures were approved.

**Galenical Note Books.**—The Sub-Committee put forward recommendations for directions to assist checkers, particularly in regard to Sets 1, 2 and 3, and it was decided that such recommendations should be adopted.

A copy of the report of the Pharmaceutical Education meeting held in Adelaide has been received from P.A.A.N.Z.



## SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

**Registration of Premises.**—Applications were received and noted from Messrs. J. B. Kildea, R. H. Evelyn, P. G. Stedman, J. R. Pickering and F. R. Sleep.

Applications were received from eight pharmacists whose pharmacies are in the course of erection, and it was decided that such applications should be deferred pending the opening of the pharmacies concerned.

Mr. L. A. Sutcliffe advises that his pharmacy is now open, and this application was received and noted.

**Register.**—Death of Mr. K. R. Mullen on 6/5/53.

**Essential Equipment for Training of Apprentices.**—Reports were submitted in connection with various pharmacies and the necessary action approved.

**Duties of Managers.**—By direction of the Board, the Registrar prepared a draft circular setting out some of the important duties of managers. In order to give the members of the Board an opportunity of perusing the draft, it was decided that further consideration be deferred until next meeting.

## PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

### Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia met at 25 King William street, Adelaide, on May 5, at 7.45 p.m.

**Present.**—Mr. J. D. Garrett (President) in the Chair, Messrs. A. C. Holloway, E. F. Lipsham, K. S. Porter, Walter C. Cotterell, V. L. Mitchell, J. D. Duncan and the Secretary.

**Correspondence.**—Correspondence has been forwarded to F.P.S.G.A. (S.A. Branch) enclosing copies of letters received from the Local Board of Health in connection with All Night Dispensing. Consideration was deferred pending a meeting of representatives of this Council and F.P.S.G.A. (S.A. Branch).

**Pharmaceutico-Medical Liaison Committee.**—A meeting of the Committee has been arranged for May 14.

**Squatting.**—Complaint has been received from a pharmaceutical chemist in connection with the opening of a new pharmacy within a short distance of his business. It was decided that when the name of the chemist who is to open the new pharmacy is available the matter will be considered.

Complaint was received from a pharmacist advising that a new pharmacy was to be opened within a very short distance of his premises. This matter was referred to the Advisory Committee for the purpose of arranging a conference between the pharmacists concerned.

**Finance.**—Statement for the month of April was submitted and adopted, and accounts totalling £1144/16/4 were passed for payment.

**Sydney Conference.**—It was decided that a recommendation should be forwarded to the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies covering the item of Reciprocal Membership, and that it be requested that an item be placed on the P.A.A.N.Z. agenda providing for a discussion on the desirability of the establishment of an Australian Pharmaceutical Society.

**A.P.F. Revision.**—Minutes of meeting held on March 26 have been circulated to members and to all pharmaceutical societies throughout the Commonwealth. The A.P.F. Revision Committee has held two further meetings, and minutes of these meetings will in due course be forwarded to all States, together with various comments in connection with portions of the new A.P.F.

**Elections.**—Letter from Returning Officer advising five nominations received as under: J. D. Duncan, J. D. Garrett, A. C. Holloway, D. F. J. Penhall and A. A. Russell, and that he intends to hold a ballot of members on June 22. Ballot papers to be issued on or before June 5.

**Gifts.**—A set of English labels has been received from Mr. J. A. Carnie and a letter of appreciation forwarded to him.

**Human Biology.**—Secretary reported that circulars covering the lectures to be delivered by Mr. K. D. Johnson have been forwarded to all members.

**Complimentary Dinner.**—The Complimentary Dinner to our newly-qualified members is to be held at the Mount Osmond Country Club on May 27, and the necessary notices have been forwarded to all members.

**International Pharmacy.**—Arrangements have been made for a series of lectures to be given by Mr. R. T. Patterson. Full details will be supplied to members at a later date.

## THE GUILD

### S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the South Australian Branch of the Guild met at 195 Victoria Square, Adelaide, on May 11, at 7.45 p.m.

**Present.**—Messrs. Walter C. Cotterell, V. L. Mitchell, G. K. F. Scott, H. G. Collyer, E. L. Miller, A. A. Russell, A. C. Holloway, R. R. Patrick and the Secretary.

**Correspondence.**—Federal Office: re Price Lists: These to be calculated and charged on an annual basis from July 1 in each year.

**Vote of Confidence in Federal Office:** It was unanimously declared that this meeting of all the chemists in this State expresses to the Federal Executive this State's confidence in their activities in regard to the Free Medicine Schemes.

**Federal Delegate's Report.**—The Federal Delegate (Mr. Walter C. Cotterell) gave a resume on the following matters: Reference to letter from Dr. Metcalfe; Letter from Federal President to all Guild Members; Subsequent Interim of P.M.S. Pricing; P.B.A. and Prices; Educational Conference; News Bulletin; re distribution of "Ipana" (Bristol Myers). Mr. Cotterell was thanked for his report.

**Pricing Officer's Report.**—The Pricing Officer (Mr. A. A. Russell) gave a resume of the Patents List and the various amendments thereto and thought same would be available in the next few days. He then opened a general discussion of details of prices for varying quantities supplied and discounts of wholesalers for quantity parcels. Mr. Russell was thanked for his report.

**Financial.**—The financial statement was presented to the meeting and approved, and accounts totalling £160/13/6 were passed for payment.

**Correspondence.**—Can Mr. Matthews get a copy of "News"? As the publication is confidential a copy cannot be made available to Mr. Matthews.

**Pharmaceutical Society:** Messrs. Walter C. Cotterell and H. G. Collyer were appointed a Committee to operate with the Pharmaceutical Society on this subject matter.

**Pharmaceutical Association:** The President read to the meeting a suggested programme of the events of the Conference in Sydney in August. It was considered that the President should bring before the Federal Office as a remit to the meeting the question of parcel buying and discounts in connection therewith.

**Hearing Aid Report (W. Sage):** The Secretary to send a report to the Federal Merchandising manager.

**P.A.T.A. Letter:** Received, remit to next meeting.

**General Business.**—The President, Mr. Cotterell, reported on the death of Mr. Kevin Mullins. He also reported that Mr. L. Smith, President of the Guild in N.S.W., and Mrs. Smith, passed through Adelaide on their way to Great Britain, and they were entertained by Mr. Cotterell.

The question of country visits was discussed, and deferred until after the annual meeting.

Resolved that the annual meeting be fixed for Thursday, August 6, and held in a suitable hall accommodating approximately 100; that light refreshments be provided, and that Messrs. Attiwill and Ross be requested to attend to address the meeting on current subject matters.

The meeting closed.



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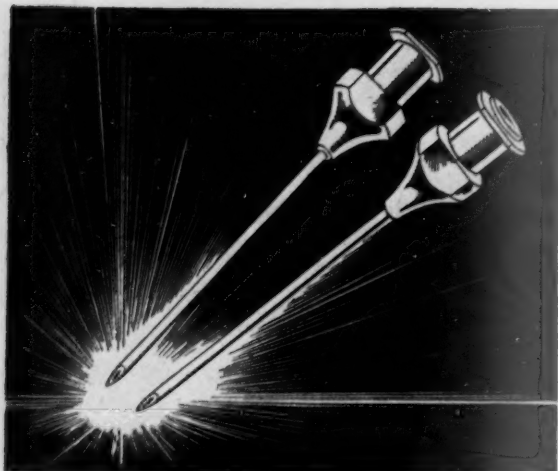
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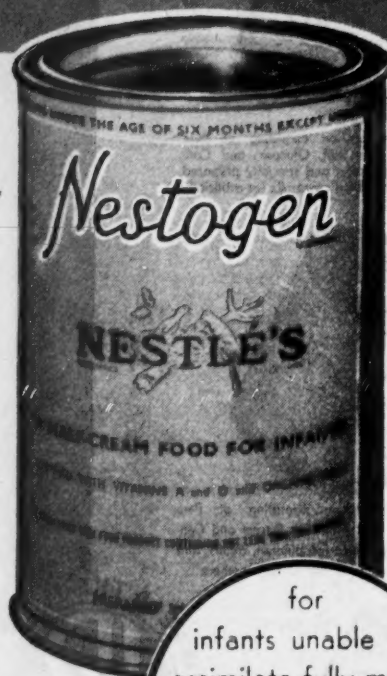
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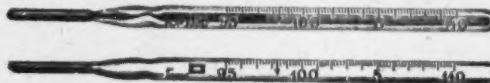
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\* Slater, F. C.: Am. J. Obst. & Gynec. 59:1089 (May) 1950



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